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*E. R. Stormont*



HISTORY  
OF  
GIBSON COUNTY,  
INDIANA

HER PEOPLE, INDUSTRIES AND INSTITUTIONS

BY  
GIL R. STORMONT

---

With Biographical Sketches of Representative Citizens and Genealogical  
Records of Many of the Old Families

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ILLUSTRATED

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1914  
B. F. BOWEN & CO., Inc.  
Indianapolis, Indiana

## DEDICATION.

This work is respectfully dedicated to

THE PIONEERS,

long since departed. May the memory of those who laid down their burdens  
by the wayside ever be fragrant as the breath of summer  
flowers, for their toils and sacrifices have made  
Gibson County a garden of sun-  
shine and delights.

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## PREFACE

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All life and achievement is evolution; present wisdom comes from past experience, and present commercial prosperity has come only from past exertion and suffering. The deeds and motives of the men that have gone before have been instrumental in shaping the destinies of later communities and states. The development of a new country was at once a task and a privilege. It required great courage, sacrifice and privation. Compare the present conditions of the people of Gibson County, Indiana, with what they were one hundred years ago. From a trackless wilderness and virgin land, it has come to be a center of prosperity and civilization, with millions of wealth, systems of railways, grand educational institutions, splendid industries and immense agricultural and mineral productions. Can any thinking person be insensible to the fascination of the study which discloses the aspirations and efforts of the early pioneers who so strongly laid the foundation upon which has been reared the magnificent prosperity of later days? To perpetuate the story of these people and to trace and record the social, political and industrial progress of the community from its first inception is the function of the local historian. A sincere purpose to preserve facts and personal memoirs that are deserving of perpetuation, and which unite the present to the past, is the motive for the present publication. The historical chapters, prepared by and under the personal supervision of Col. Gil R. Stormont, compose a valuable collection and will prove not only of interest to the present generation, but of inestimable worth to future historians, being the result of patient toil and earnest research. Colonel Stormont has conscientiously endeavored to make this work authentic, and to him and those who co-operated with him, the publishers desire to express appreciation of their efforts. A specially valuable and interesting department is that one devoted to the sketches of representative citizens of Gibson county whose records deserve preservation because of their worth, effort and accomplishment. The publishers desire to extend their thanks to the gentlemen who have so faithfully labored to this end. Thanks are also due to the citizens of Gibson county for the uniform kindness with which they have regarded

#### PREFACE.

this undertaking and for their many services rendered in the gaining of necessary information.

In placing the "History of Gibson County, Indiana," before the citizens, the publishers can conscientiously claim that they have carried out the plan as outlined in the prospectus. Every biographical sketch in the work has been submitted to the party interested, for correction, and therefore any error of fact, if there be any, is solely due to the person for whom the sketch was prepared. Confident that our effort to please will fully meet the approbation of the public, we are,

Respectfully,

THE PUBLISHERS.

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# HISTORICAL

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## CHAPTER I.

### GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY.

Professors Cox and Collett made state geological reports which, in substance, contain the following facts:

"The surface of Gibson county, in the western part, is level or mildly undulating. Nearly half is the bottom land and a small portion of barrens. East from the center and along the eastern and northeastern boundary are to be seen elevated plateaus, pierced by deep valleys, and covered with excellent timber, as late as the nineties. The soil is generally an alluvial loam and is everywhere very fertile. The alluvial bottoms along the streams, originating from the ordinary floods, are made up of sands and clays spread out by overflow, and rest upon or against the sides of the gravel terraces. The terraces are consequently next in age and rest upon or against the sides of more ancient alluvium or sand hills, which, in turn, are more recent than the loess clays, which superimpose the true boulder or glacial drift. From the terminus of the conglomerate spur which pierces the county like a promontory from the east, a ridge of yellow loam sets in and continues westward, forming the present, as it probably formed the ancient, line of demarkation between the waters of the Patoka and White rivers. This ridge was clothed with a magnificent growth of oak, poplar and other valuable timber and, from the quality of the soil, was formed at a time when the headwaters of the rivers were rapidly cutting their channels in the sub-carboniferous limestones to the east, constituting a rich loam. This ridge, with like characteristics as to soil and timber, is continued from northeast to southwest across the county, constituting a broad belt of agricultural country about Princeton and Owensville. Outliers of this poplar soil are seen even west of the Wabash, at and southwest of Mt. Carmel, which indicate the wayward course of the river currents then flowing through a broad, lake-like sheet of water at an elevation from one hundred and twenty to one hundred and

fifty feet above their present channels. At Buena Vista, on White river, extensive mounds surround the village. Outcrops of the rash coals were observed in the vicinity, and the companion limestones develop a thickness of from two to five feet. The high ridge and tableland south of town has a rocky skeleton, covered with lacustral loams. But above and against the bluffs of loess are extensive bars of beds of fluvatile sand, some of which obtain in different localities at an elevation of two hundred and thirty-five feet above the present bed of White river. These indicate the high water level of the ancient river. On the sides of the bluffs are occasionally found small beds of gravel containing a few specimens of the harder stone sorted from the glacial drift, surviving on account of the obduracy of material, but notably containing geodes and cherts from the mountain limestone at the headwaters of the river. The last mentioned mark the bars of low water line and plainly indicate the former presence of the river at these points. South of the Patoka powerful erosive forces have swept across the eastern part of the county, leaving isolated mounds, knobs and hills, monumental tokens of the ancient surface; but, generally, excavating the rocks to the depth of from fifty to one hundred and sixty feet and creating broad valleys or valley plains now waterless or used by insignificant brooks. This epoch is dated back to the time of the glacial river and the soil to the lacustral, for we find that on the hillsides an ash gray soil prevails, very sensitive to draught or moisture, the modified or washed residual sands of the latter epoch."

"It was written of this county thirty years and more ago that, owing to the peculiar formations, the surface deposits endow the county with a variety of fertile soils and insure a variety of pursuits so necessary for the social and pecuniary development of the community. Stone suitable for building purposes is not very common. The 'Merom rock' is usually friable, and will soon disintegrate on exposure. Fair quarry stone is found at a point east of Hazelton, at Severns' Bridge, on Patoka, and near the county line. Stone of a much superior grade is found in the vicinity of Oakland."

Coal of an excellent quality in abundance sufficient to supply any possible demand occurs along the line which separates Gibson from Pike county.

Clay, bricks and tile of a good quality can be made from material found in almost all parts of Gibson county. All the coals are underlaid and the places of the barren seams occupied by fire clays, which in the future will equal the coals in value. These clays are suitable for the manufacture of tiles, terra-cotta and potter's ware, fire-brick, etc.

A recent soil survey of this county states that the county has a large variety of soil types, with a wide range of adaptability. All the ordinary crops are grown, many special crops, truck farming and fruit growing, and each finds a soil especially suited to its needs, corn along the streams and river flats, the uplands for wheat, the sand hills for melons, etc. These soils all have a good degree of fertility and fertilizers are little needed, save where some special crop is raised.

The following table will show the area of the various types of soil:

Common loess (loam)-----	302 square miles
Marl loess-----	10 square miles
Lake plain-----	27 square miles
Sand dunes and ridges-----	30 square miles
Alluvial—Upper flood plains-----	75 square miles
Lower flood plains-----	42 square miles
Swamp deposits-----	4 square miles

#### SUMMARY.

Under the above caption, the state geologist's report on soil survey in Gibson county in 1909, has the following:

"Gibson county is in a prosperous condition agriculturally. The county is large, has great wealth, and the farming population for the most part are a progressive people, as is evinced by the appearance of the homes, farms and general conditions throughout the county. All crops are grown successfully. The melon industry, however, has made the county famous. A superior quality of melons are grown on the soils and they find a ready market in St. Louis, Louisville, Indianapolis, Chicago, Pittsburgh and other large markets. The sand areas were formerly considered of little value, but at the present time little can be bought at less than a hundred dollars an acre, and there is little desire to sell at any price. Three varieties of cantaloupes are grown, chiefly nutmegs, netted Rockyfords and large netted. There is a good sale for all these varieties. They are marketed in baskets which hold on the average about eighteen melons and the yield is from two to four hundreds baskets per acre. The cantaloupe season begins about July 15th and they bring about fifty cents per basket to the grower; later in the season the price drops to from twenty to twenty-five cents per basket. The baskets cost the growers about four or five cents each. Some shipments are made loose in the car, also hauled loose in wagons to surrounding markets, but the

price obtained is usually lower. In drawing to the cars the growers take from eighty-five to one hundred and fifty baskets at a load. Cantaloupes average about sixty dollars per acre to the grower.

"Watermelons begin about August 1st. They are hauled in wagons to the market and about one hundred and twenty-five is a usual load. The first cars shipped bring the grower about twenty-two cents each. Watermelons average about two to three hundred melons per acre, but many fields run as high as seven hundred to one thousand to the acre. The principal fertilizer used is well rotted stable manure. The melon crop is generally plowed four times in cultivation and additional care is used to keep all grass out."

"The county was formerly covered with a heavy forest growth. Some good timber yet remains and considerable tracts of small timber are found in parts of the county. Practically all of the trees of this section are of value and those which usually indicate a good quality of soil. Fifty or more species may be found in any wooded tract and in some parts one class of trees will predominate and in other locations different species will take the lead.

"The soil condition in this county should be carefully studied and a series of investigations made as to their needs. The soil is naturally productive, but by the continual cropping the soil is depleted unless proper attention is given to the rotation of crops and the methods of cultivation."

#### THE BITUMINOUS COAL OF GIBSON COUNTY.

Of the thirteen coal-producing counties in this state, Gibson is within two of the bottom of the list, Daviess and Perry counties only producing less tons than Gibson, while the greatest coal-producing county in Indiana is Vigo, which produced in 1908, 3,490,349 tons. The same year the output in Gibson was only 208,654 tons.

The 1909 state reports show that Gibson county mines employed 172 miners, at an average wage of \$769 per year. The Oswald mines employed 137 men inside and twelve men outside; Fort Branch mines worked twenty-seven men inside and a total of forty-three; Francisco mine employed a total of thirteen men.

The output of coal in the county during the last named year was: From the Oswald mine (now the Princeton Coal Company), 176,403 tons; from the Fort Branch mine, 28,926 tons; from the Francisco mine, 3,325 tons, making a grand total of 208,654 tons.

## NATURAL GAS.

At one time the natural gas industry was one of considerable importance in Gibson county, but with the passing years the supply here, as well as in most Indiana points, has greatly diminished. In and near Oakland City, in 1909, a number of wells were sunk for gas. There are numerous gas wells in the northern half of the county, but none of great force, hence it is no longer spoken of as among the notable industries in the county.

## PETROLEUM OIL FIELDS.

The state geological reports for 1907 contain much concerning the Gibson county oil fields, a portion of which the writer draws from in writing this chapter. The first discovery of oil in this county was in 1903, at least that was the first of any commercial value. It was struck in a sandstone varying from eight hundred and twenty to nine hundred and twenty feet below the surface. The history of this industry, however, goes back to 1891, when a subsidy was voted by Patoka township to the Southern Railway Company, inducing that company to locate their central shops at Princeton. A little before that time William R. Wright, of Princeton, while in search of coal and gas, had completed a well known as "Evans' Well," on the eastern edge of the city. A considerable pressure of gas was found, which induced him to pipe it to the court house yard and burn it, so attracting public interest to his well. This event, along with the voting of the subsidy, created some excitement and in a short time afterward four wells were completed. These, however, were unsuccessful in producing any quantity of gas, although the presence of heavy strata of coal and shale was shown. Three of these wells were near the Evans well and one located in the yards of the Southern railway shops. Then another well was located on the J. B. Hall tract on the western edge of Princeton, directly south of the Evansville & Terre Haute railroad depot. It was carried down to a depth of 1,274 feet, and at 355 feet a vein of coal strata measuring six feet in thickness was passed through; at 470 feet another six-foot vein was found and still another at the depth of 670 feet. The largest vein was struck at 730 feet, being seven feet in thickness, and finally, at the depth of 1,020 feet, three feet of coal was encountered, showing five strata of coal in this one location. But a small amount of gas ever emitted from this well. In fact none of the 1891 gas wells ever pro-

duced a commercial natural gas. Ten years rolled by and nothing of importance was done in the way of sinking more wells. But in January, 1902, a company composed of business men in Princeton was organized and incorporated as The Inter-State Oil and Gas Company. These men were the pioneers in the Princeton oil field and were as follows: Seth Ward, Sr., S. T. Heston, Eugene Criswell, G. E. Bryant, Harry Kurtz and J. W. Archer. The capital stock was \$500,000, in one dollar shares. They leased three thousand acres of land in the vicinity of Princeton, and early in the spring of 1902 let a contract to drill two thousand feet, with the understanding that Trenton rock was to be reached. A bore was put down on the Charles Brownlee farm, south half of the southwest quarter of section 6, township 2, range 11 west, a half mile north of the limits of the city. Indications of oil appeared at the depth of 869 feet, but on the workmen went until 1,026 feet was reached, when another showing of oil was discovered, but this, too, was not a paying oil find and so more work was done, and on a day in February, 1903, after expending \$5,000, the discouraged operators abandoned the enterprise and some time elapsed before another entry was made in the field. But capital and enterprise kept steadily pressing forward, and by the close of 1906 there were one hundred and twenty-two gas-producing wells, forty-four dry holes, eleven abandoned pay wells and one well drilling, making a total of one hundred and seventy-six wells, eighty-two of which yielded gas. None of these wells are large producers, but they have been the source of much wealth in the county in the few years they have been in operation. In 1904 there were shipped from Gibson county 32,000 barrels of oil; in 1905 there were 65,000 barrels shipped and in 1906 there were 103,843 barrels shipped. These wells are largely to the north and west of Princeton scattered over quite a territory.

The output of the wells are largely under the control of the Standard Oil Company, known here as the Indiana Pipe Line Company, who change the prices here in harmony with the oil markets everywhere in the country, hence some months the wells are more profitable than in others of the same year.

This oil field extends over an area of about twelve square miles and lies in section 35, township 1, range 11 west, and in sections 2, 3, 10 and 11, in township 2, range 11 west. They are mostly all in Patoka civil township. The eastern limit of the field is about one and a half miles from the northwest corner of the corporate limits of the city of Princeton.



## ELEVATIONS ABOVE SEA LEVEL.

The following are the elevations at various points within Gibson county: Yeager's Hill, 642 feet; Bald Hill, 634 feet; Francisco, 430 feet; Fort Branch, 440 feet; Gordon Hills, 500 feet; Haubstadt, 473 feet; Hazelton, 422 feet; King's Station, 463 feet; Lyles, 400 feet; Owensville, 507 feet; Patoka, 429 feet; Princeton, at the Evansville & Terre Haute railroad station, 478 feet; Southern station in Princeton, 429 feet; court house, 501 feet.

## CHAPTER II.

### INDIAN OCCUPANCY—OTHER RACES.

Before the pioneer white settlers invaded the green glad solitude of what is now known as Gibson county, the red man inhabited this territory. The Indians who roamed at will over the hills and valleys of this region were made up from remnants of several tribes, including the Shawnee, Sacs, Fox, Kickapoo, Miami and Pottawatomies. Of the Shawnee, old "Track-well" was a noted chief. He had a village of several wigwams located on Indian creek, about two miles northeast of where Princeton is located. The Miamis had a fort on the Patoka river and claimed ownership to a portion of the territory. As civilization approached from the south and east, the Indians gradually disappeared, moving westward. The forest wilds yielded to the axe of the sturdy pioneer and were transformed into fields of waving grain and corn. Long decades since the foundations of industry were established on the ruins of the Indian wigwam and the noise and din of the trades of civilized artisans have been heard where once the stillness of the dark, dense forests was unbroken, save by the whoop of the savage Indian tribes, warring one with the other.

The Indiana Legislature requested the Congress of the United States in the early thirties to quiet all the Indian titles in this state. This request was granted and by treaty the Pottawatomies ceded to the government of the United States six million acres of land, all they possessed. A little later the Miamis, through the labors of Col. A. C. Pepper, Indian agent, sold a considerable portion of their most desirable reserves to the United States.

In 1838 Colonel Pepper and General Tipton, with an escort of United States soldiers, conducted about one thousand Pottawatomies to the west of the Mississippi river, western Iowa getting many of the tribe, and later these were induced to move on to the southwestern territories. A few, however, of both tribes lingered around their old haunts and hunting grounds, refusing to be consoled at their loss. But after white men commenced gathering in thicker settlements, they, too, sought the sinking sun and joined their brethren in the western country above named.

While we cannot stop here to discuss a question of ethics, we may

sympathize with the Indian in what he has suffered at the hand of the white man; yet we may recollect that he, too, was a despoiler. A civilization of no small pretensions antedated his advent, or at least his savage condition. Whether this civilization was that of a distinct race, or something which the Indians had lost, cannot be certainly told. Certain it is, however, that what is now Gibson county was inhabited by a pre-historic race. Evidences of its existence and civilization are numerous. Specimens of pottery, of fair workmanship and artistic adornments, are found in the mounds which these ancient people, for reasons best known to themselves, threw up. In some parts of the state various implements of copper have been found, the work of these aborigines. Copper blades have been discovered, tempered so highly as to defy the efforts of modern art. The Indians who roamed and hunted over the wooded hills and vales of Gibson county were chiefly remnants of the Kickapoos, Shawnees, Sacs, Foxes, Pottawatomies and the Miami. They were generally friendly, seldom committing any depredations beyond occasionally stealing poultry, hogs and sheep. Old "Trackwell," a chief of the Shawnee tribe, had a town of several wigwams. The town was here when the first settlers came in and was located on Indian creek, two miles northeast of Princeton, on section 4, township 2, range 10. The old chief and his tribe were very friendly with the whites. The Miami claimed ownership to a part of this locality. They had a fort on the south side of the river a short distance from the present site of the Patoka bridge.

#### BURNING OF AN INDIAN VILLAGE NEAR OWENSVILLE.

Cockrun's Pioneer History of Indiana says of this event:

"The last village inhabited by the Indians in the southwestern part of Gibson county was located in the northeast corner of section 9, township 3, range 12, and in section 4, township 3, range 12, two miles west of Owensville. It was a straggling village, extending westward from the northeast corner of section 9, for about a mile, composed of wigwams and built along the springs coming out of the foot of the sand hills.

"The Indians were driven away late in the summer or early in the fall of 1807, and the wigwams burned all except a few which were still there in 1809. The village was destroyed by Capt. Jacob Warrick and others. If there was any fighting done or Indians killed it was never known except by those engaged in it. There were very good reasons for their silence, as the government did not allow such acts when at peace with the Indians.

"Captain Warrick settled on the northwest quarter of section 11, east of the village. Purty Old Tom Montgomery, Captain Warrick's father-in-law, settled on the southwest quarter of section 12, Robert Anderson and sons settled northeast of Owensville and others were living in the vicinity of Owensville ten years before the town was laid out. The men who assisted Captain Warrick in driving the Indians away and destroying their town were men who had settled west and southwest of Anderson's creek, now Marsh creek, in the neighborhood of Owensville and probably others from the neighborhood of Princeton, seven years before Princeton was laid out. The village belonged to the Piankeshaws, and the Indians who got away crossed the Wabash river into southern Illinois, which was then Indiana Territory.

"The destruction of the village made the Indians hostile and it came near bringing on war, and no doubt would, had it not been for the second raid across the Wabash river.

"After the destruction of the village, the settlers found the Indians were coming back and prowling around in the neighborhood of nights. They also found that they were going back along the old Indian trace from the bluff to the island, their crossing.

"The settlers, becoming very uneasy for fear they would be attacked and massacred, hastily organized a company about the first of October, 1807, all well mounted and armed. They took the old Indian trace early one morning for Coffee Island ford on the Wabash river. They rode across the ford to the west bank of the river and there held a council and laid plans for advancing. Captain Warrick was to follow the Indian trace and the others to deploy on each side of him within hearing distance. The old Indian fighters were placed on the extreme right and left flanks. Robert Anderson and his son, Watt, were on the right and Purty Old Tom Montgomery was on the left of the line and the younger men were between Montgomery and Warrick and Anderson and Warrick. The orders were for Warrick to ride down the trace slowly and cautiously. Young Sam Anderson, with Warrick, was carrying a large cow's horn instead of a bugle. The signal to retreat, if too many Indians were found, was to be two long blasts on the horn and a shot from a rifle. The objective point was the Piankeshaw Indian village located on a small stream running in a westerly direction into Bumpas.

"They followed the trace to the east end of a small prairie. Captain Warrick and others rode into the edge of the prairie and discovered fifty or

sixty Indian warriors advancing east to meet them, but out of reach of their guns. They rode back into the timber. Captain Warrick ordered Anderson to give the retreat signal on the horn, and they retreated to the ford as rapidly as possible, all reaching there about the same time except Purty Old Tom Montgomery. Captain Warrick ordered them to cross the ford in haste, but four or five old Indian fighters—Old Bob Anderson, his son Watt and a few others—stayed with Warrick to wait for Montgomery. They waited as long as they dared, and then crossed the river to the rest of the company. They hadn't been across long when twenty-five or thirty Indians came up on the other side of the river. Then Bob Anderson said to Captain Warrick, 'Tom's gone this time,' but he was wrong; a man who had fought Indians over half of old Virginia, all of Kentucky and southern Indiana could not be captured by Piankeshaw Indians. In advancing, Montgomery had got too far to the left and away in advance of the line. When he heard the signal to retreat he turned his horse and rode into the south edge of the prairie. When he saw that the Indians were going into the forest from the east end of the prairie and that he was cut off from the others, he rode back into the timber and rode for the river as fast as his horse would carry him. When he reached the river he swam his horse to the Indiana side and rode up on the bank where he could see over the brush at the point where he crossed the river, knowing the Indians would come on the trail of his horse.

"Eight or ten Indians had followed him to the edge of the water, and he shot at them across the river. When the company at the island heard the shot, old Robert Anderson said, 'Boys, that's Tom's gun,' and they answered him. They did not have to wait long until Purty Old Tom came riding up to the company as unconcernedly as if he had been on a deer hunt.

"The little creek that the Piankeshaw village was on drained a low, wet prairie, that since that time was named Village creek, and the prairie named Compton prairie.

"The Montgomery referred to in this story was the first of the family to locate in southwestern Indiana. From him has descended the large influential family of Montgomerys and their descendants in southwestern Indiana and Illinois."

## THE APPEARANCE OF WHITE MEN.

Four hundred years ago this vast region known as the "Territory of the United States Northwest of the Ohio River," washed by more than three thousand miles of navigable waters, was unknown to the white race. This region contained an area of almost two hundred and sixty-seven thousand square miles and had within its boundaries what are now known as the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and that portion of Minnesota east of the Mississippi river. It was thinly settled by numerous tribes of Indians who had for unknown centuries roamed at will over its beautiful prairies and rich valleys, with forests and glens as charming hunting and fishing grounds, where all was as the hand of the Creator had fashioned it. The fertile soil found in this great domain furnished these tribes with corn and tobacco. The buffalo, bear, the nimble-footed deer and elk provided them with ample supply of meat and clothing. The lakes and swift-running streams all abounded in many fine fishes.

Nearly a hundred and fifty years had passed after the discovery of America before any part of the region just named had been visited by Europeans, and then only by some few daring explorers and adventurers.

In 1607 the English effected a settlement at Jamestown, Virginia, and a year later French adventurers founded the city of Quebec, and from that date on, for a century and a half, France and Great Britain were animated rivals to secure the trade and commerce of North America. The French settlers were nearly all adventurers, traders and religious teachers of the Roman Catholic faith. The English people were of the home-seeking class, with a goodly number of adventurers and traders. During this period the chief characters known now in history were the French adventurers, Joliette, Marquette, LaSalle and their associates.

## CHAPTER III.

### EARLY SETTLEMENT OF GIBSON COUNTY.

To the present inhabitants, whose ancestors were pioneers in Gibson county, this chapter will be of unusual interest. The mere mention of names and families will bring to mind some story often related by father, mother or grandparents concerning the hardships endured by pioneers. Yet not all was hard work and trials, for the pioneer had a cheerful heart and his family growing up around him looked into the future with a hope that made life worth living every day. The simple life, simple diet and the easy-going customs of our forefathers made health and strength, and character as well.

### GIBSON COUNTY'S FIRST SETTLER.

From the pen of J. R. Strickland, in the centennial number of the *Princeton Clarion-News*, March, 1913, appeared the following graphic account of the county's first actual settler, John Severns, and, with the permission of the publishers, we here quote the same:

The wholesouled honesty and manly honor of John Severns are the two principal things that enabled him to lay claim to the proud distinction of being the first white settler to tread the soil now comprised of Gibson county. These two characteristics were demanded of him by the Indians and John Severns was equal to the occasion. It was a test that taxed the power of human endurance. However, in the confidence game of Indian versus White Man this fellow Severns was a close rival to the great William Penn.

The coming of the first white settler to Gibson county was preceded by a thrilling and tragic incident, the scene of which was enacted in Virginia. A natives of Wales, Severns came with his parents to America several years before the Revolutionary war. When the war for independence was declared, John Severns answered the trumpet's call for volunteers. On the occasion of the first visit home with his parents, some months later, a band of blood-thirsty Indians swooped down on the family one evening and took them prisoners. The father, mother, sister and younger brother were killed, while John and an elder brother were kept as prisoners.

John Severns remained a prisoner seven long years. At divers times he sought to escape, but his captors were too cunning for him, and under threats of death Severns was compelled to adjust himself to the new life and its environments. In adopting the garb and manners of the Indians, John Severns undoubtedly presented an amusing spectacle. He was a short, heavy-set man, of powerful build, and the feathers and paint furnished him by the Indians did not help his appearance as a red man!

The years rolled on, but Severns was none the less watchful for the favorable moment of escape and one day, at the close of his seventh year in the captivity of the Indians, he made the use of an opportunity to break for liberty. It was several hours before the chief of the tribe discovered the absence of Severns. The old chief dispatched a number of his fleet-footed warriors along the route supposed to have been taken by the escaped prisoner. However, they failed to strike the trail. Severns knew the value of time. He made for the borders of civilization with all possible haste. He arrived in Pennsylvania some months later. His brother continued to live with the Indians and finally wooed and married one of the squaws and reared a family of children.

Soon after Severns arrived in Pennsylvania he married. Prior to his capture by the Indians he had been carefully instructed in mathematics by his father and, following his escape, Severns acquired a knowledge of surveying and assisted the government surveyors in Maryland and Kentucky. In 1789 he penetrated the wilderness of the Northwest territory with his family and settled on the south bank of the Patoka river, at a place now known as Severns Bridge. The family resorted to the caverns of the rocks for protection against inclement weather and bands of savage Indians. The family lived as cave dwellers for several months, before the Indians permitted Severns to construct a rude hut of boughs, skins and other materials.

By his knowledge of dialects and their customs and habits, Severns was enabled to make friends of the Indians inhabiting that region. On the opposite bank of the Patoka river was an Indian village, the remnants of a Shawnee tribe. Old Trackwell, chief of this tribe, was morose, cruel and vindictive in nature. His imperial residence consisted of a number of wigwams. He studiously avoided the formality of an introduction to Severns and had not the first white settler possessed a great address and an honorable bearing, as well as a commendable degree of the spirit of forgiveness, old Trackwell would have succeeded in routing Severns and his family. But the first white settler was a post-graduate in the confidence-winning



game and so successful was he in applying the arts of peace and harmony that old Trackwell descended from his high perch and sought an understanding with his pale-faced stranger.

Severns was allowed to continue his residence in that region and to establish a ferry upon the conditions that he keep "fire water" for the Indians and allow them the free use of his ferry. Severns readily and willingly agreed to the conditions imposed upon him by the Indians. He had no desire to violate the obligation with his neighbor. It was his nature to be upright and honorable in all his dealings with his fellow men. The whole-souled honesty and manly honor of John Severns deeply impressed the Indians upon more than one occasion. He smoked a council pipe with them frequently and his influence with the different tribes was largely instrumental in preserving peace after the arrival of other white settlers.

Severns was often called upon to act as interpreter for the tribe and negotiate with the Indian agent. In due time he became an indispensable quantity with all the tribes that roamed and hunted over the vales of Gibson county. He rarely refused an opportunity to join the different chiefs and their warriors on fishing and hunting expeditions. Severns took an active part in Indian sports and, according to traditions, he and old Trackwell engaged in a friendly sprint one day and when Severns was declared the winner old Trackwell was enraged and danced about Severns, giving several terrifying war whoops. Another race was run and old Trackwell, through the kindness of Severns, won easily. The envious old chief was pacified.

The Miamis claimed ownership to part of the land in the community where the first white settler established his home. They had a fort on the south side of the river, a short distance from the present site of the Patoka bridge. Old Never-Sleep, the grand sachem of the Miamis, allowed the coming of the white man to disturb him but little and while he was friendly to Severns, the old chief did not go out of his way to increase his acquaintance with the settlers.

When Severns came to Gibson county he brought apple and peach seeds from Kentucky and cultivated a few trees and prior to 1802 he had apple and peach trees in bearing.

Severns was made a Mason in Williamsburgh, Virginia, in 1776. One of his descendants has a certificate of Lodge No. 457, issued to Severns by that lodge, June 20, 1776, and it is signed by William Waddell, worshipful master; John Rowsay, senior warden; John Dixon, junior warden. Severns

died about the year 1829 and, in compliance with his request, was buried near where he settled.

A son of Severns acquired a knowledge of the Indian tongue and acted as one of the interpreters for General Harrison during the Indian troubles and at the battle of Tippecanoe. For this service a small tract of land was afterward awarded his children by the general government.

Following John Severns, the next settlers in Gibson county were Gervas and Daniel Hazelton and their families. Gervas Hazelton kept a ferry on White river and was a well known pioneer. The town of Hazelton is named in his honor.

Before going into details regarding the various pioneer families, it will be best to state that in 1802 John Johnson and family moved to Gibson county from Kentucky on pack-horses and settled a mile west of the present city of Princeton. In 1803 William Hargrove and family came from Kentucky on pack-mules and took up a tract of land to the north of Princeton. In the same year Joseph Milburn, of Kentucky, settled in the northern portion of the county, between Patoka and White rivers. In 1805 came James McClure, with his mother and family; also the following year with their families: Thomas Montgomery, Judge Isaac Montgomery, Gen. Robert M. Evans, Joseph Neely, Jesse Kiniball, James Wheeler, and possibly a few more. Among those who located near Princeton in 1807 were William Harrington, John Woods, Thomas and William Archer, John Benson, Jesse and Asa Music, Mathias and Smith Mounts. Capt. Jacob Warrick settled near Owensville in the same year. In 1808 came in Rev. Stephen Strickland, William Clark, Rev. Alexander Devin, Cary and William Wilkinson, Major James Smith, John Braselton and others. Robert McGary and John Armstrong came to the county in 1809. About this date settlers began to come in more rapidly. Some of those whose descendants are best known in Princeton at this time were Eli Strain, who settled in Gibson county in 1810, and Jesse Emerson, James Knowles, Elisha Embree and Andrew Gudgel, 1811. After this time the country was settled so rapidly it is hard to mention all of those who here sought a home.

In the summer of 1810 the people became alarmed on account of the conspiracy of old Tecumseh, the famous Indian chieftain who lived in the north part of the state. The Indians said the white people were taking all the land away from them and were trying to drive them out of the state and everyone was afraid the Indians would make a raid on the towns and settlements all over the state. In order to protect themselves, the people

built forts or stockades, where they could all get together and defend themselves against the savages. Three forts were built in Patoka township at that time, Fort Branch, Fort Hopkins, near the old Archer cemetery, northwest of the city of Princeton, and the stockade at William Harrington's, on the McCurdy place, a mile and a half west of Princeton. Although no fighting took place with the Indians in southern Indiana at that time, yet the fear of being killed by an Indian kept many people from settling here during 1810 and 1811.

Now, to give more in detail the circumstances under which the settlement was made in this county, it may be stated that David Robb was the pioneer of the Robb family in Gibson county. In the year 1800 he settled with his family on a tract of land a half mile south of the present town of Hazelton. He began housekeeping in a camp; subsequently cleared a small piece of land, erected a log cabin and made a farm. He was a native of Ireland. His father, James, and mother, Margaret Robb (nee Barr), with their two small children, Thomas and James, took passage in a sailing vessel at a port in Ireland for America in the year 1773, and landed in Philadelphia. It was their intention to bring young David, then two years of age, with them, but his grandfather Barr, just at the moment when the stage-plank was being removed and the vessel spreading her canvas to sail, picked up his little grandson David and carried him ashore. He kept him at the old house until the year 1776, when, accompanied by his nurse, he sent him over to join his parents, who were then living in Philadelphia. During the Revolutionary struggle they lived in different places in Pennsylvania until the year 1786, when they removed to Kentucky. They settled about ten miles from the Falls of the Ohio, now the site of Louisville, at a place not far from Mann's Lick. Here David was employed a few years assisting to make salt, his father engaged in farming, and in 1800 he followed his son to Indiana Territory and settled near Severns' bridge, then Severns' ferry. The tract of land on which he settled was afterward known as Yellow spring, and it was there that the wife of James and mother of David Robb died in the year 1807. He lived there a number of years, then moved to Posey county, and finally returned to Jefferson county, Kentucky, where he died in the year of about 1825, at the residence of his son, Henry Robb. James Robb and wife were persons of education and refinement. David Robb was born in Ireland, July 12, 1771; his early education was mostly attended to by his parents and after coming here he formed the acquaintance of General Harrison, then governor of the territory, whose residence was at Vincennes. The

General frequently loaned him books from his library, and by this means he was able to improve his education. In later years he became on quite intimate terms with Harrison, who would occasionally call and spend a night at his residence. He was married March 20, 1800, in Jefferson county, Kentucky, to Nancy Eckley, the daughter of Joseph and Susan (Rickerts) Eckley. The original home of the Eckleys was in Maryland in what is now the District of Columbia. Mr. Eckley was killed in a battle with the Indians prior to the Revolutionary war. His widow and family subsequently moved to Kentucky. David Robb and wife, soon after marriage, started on horseback for the then wilds of Indiana; they were accompanied by Samuel Means and wife, who settled north of Vincennes. They drove with them a few head of stock and, of course, camped out of nights. After arriving at their destination, they lived for the first two months in a camp which was constructed by felling a large walnut tree, that served for the back of the camp, and by means of poles and bark they constructed a rude hut. It furnished shelter for them from the heat of the sun and the rain. The front was open and there the fires were made which served to cook their frugal meals and as warmth during the chilly nights in their humble home. Thus was the habitation of the hardy pioneer and his youthful and happy bride.

During the summer and before the winter set in, Mr. Robb succeeded in constructing a fairly comfortable small log house, in which they spent the winter. When he and his wife came here in 1800 they found John Severn and Daniel Hazelton and their families. Mr. Robb and his wife had born to them a family of ten children, and as the children were born pioneers of the county we give their names in order of birth as follows:

Achilles, born August 13, 1801. The second child was Eleanor, born December 21, 1803, married Elisha Embree, and lived in Princeton. James, born May 1, 1806, died at the age of twenty-two. Susan R., born May 18, 1808, married Rev. Hiram A. Hunter. Nancy, born June 8, 1810, married Joseph Devin. Elizabeth E., born September 12, 1812, married William McClure. Sally Ann, born November 22, 1814, died October 1, 1835. Franklin, born February 15, 1817, lived at Robinson, Illinois. Charity, born April 30, 1819, first wife of Dr. V. T. West, died August 31, 1841. Cordelia, born May 8, 1821, second wife of Dr. V. P. West.

David Robb was a brave and gallant soldier during the early Indian troubles. He was captain of a company at the battle of Tippecanoe, afterward became a major of militia. He and his neighbors constructed a block house at his residence prior to the Indian war, to which the families of the

settlers of the neighborhood could resort in the event of an attack from the savages, which attack was, however, fortunately not made. Mr. Robb was a man of considerable enterprise. In 1814 he established a saw and grist-mill on Robb's creek, propelled by water power. He also carried on a blacksmith and carpenter shop, and a small distillery. The three last business enterprises were begun about nine or ten years after the building of the mill. In 1819 he built a brick residence, which was the second brick house built in that part of the county. He was also a surveyor and farmer, one of the justices of the peace, when the county formed part of Knox county, and after the organization of Gibson county he held at intervals offices for several years. He was also a member of the Territorial Legislature, and of the first Constitutional Convention, and subsequently a member of the State Legislature. Under the administration of Andrew Jackson he was registrar of the land office of this district, with headquarters at Laporte. He was one time a slaveholder. He died April 15, 1844. His widow survived him until July 29, 1855. Numerous descendants of the Robb family still reside in the county.

In the fall of 1802 members of the Johnson family became residents of this county. The family consisted of nine persons: John and his wife, Sarah, and their seven children, Rebecca, Betsey, Mary, Hannah, Jacob, David and John. The parents and several of the elder children were natives of Virginia. In 1798 they removed to Kentucky, and four years later crossed the Ohio at McGary's cabin, now the site of Evansville, and made their way north on pack horses to the tract of land since known as McCurdy's farm, a mile west of Princeton. Here they built a shanty and wintered. During the journey the horses got away and started for their old home in Kentucky. One of the boys, Jacob, started in pursuit, bareheaded, through the forest, keeping their trail and caught them near where they crossed the Ohio river in coming. The boy encountered no habitation nor person and, fearless and alone, pursued his way and accomplished his purpose. When spring opened they built a log cabin on the old place where their grandson, David, resided, a few miles northeast of Princeton. The male members of the family were quite celebrated as hunters and travelers. Jacob enlisted in 1813 in Hargrove's company of rangers. He also assisted in the survey of seminary lands as campkeeper. He first married a Stewart, and upon her death a Skelton, a daughter of John Skelton. Of the first union there were two children, James Johnson, of Mt. Carmel, and Mrs. McEtridge. By the second wife there were six children, John, Jackson, Mrs. Fairfield, Mrs. McCreary, Lydia and David.

One of the most distinguished of the early families of Gibson county were the Hargroves. William Hargrove, the pioneer, was a South Carolinian by birth, born in the year 1775, and while still a lad moved with his parents to Pulaski county, Kentucky, where he grew to manhood and married Sarah Jaspar. A few years later, concluding to change his location, he set out with his wife and three children for the West, with the few worldly goods he possessed loaded on pack mules, on which his wife and children also rode. Their destination was Missouri, but after arriving in the vicinity of the present site of Princeton, and admiring the beautiful country here, they concluded to go no farther, and in the early part of November, 1803, settled on section 36, township 1 south, range 11. Here he erected a small cabin and lived for a time and then settled on a tract of land, afterwards known as the Isaac Woods farm, north of Princeton, in township 2 south, range 10. William Hargrove was a noted Indian hunter of Kentucky and also here. He was a brave and plucky man. The following incident will illustrate the heroic quality of the pioneer. One time when the neighbors were congregated at a log rolling an Indian came along and a little dispute arose, and Hargrove told the Indian he lied. This exasperated the latter and he raised his tomahawk to attack him, but one of the bystanders knocked him down. The Indian, though keenly feeling the insult, arose and left, and the next day, bent on mischief, he returned to the settlement, and at one of the cabins, finding the men folks absent, he led his horse within the cabin and, besides insulting the wife of the settler, he broke up what little furniture there was, and turned things topsy-turvy. The lady found means of escape and ran over and informed Mr. Hargrove, who, with rifle in hand, immediately started after the redskin. Arriving at the cabin, the Indian was not there, but he saw him at a spring a short distance away. He at once cut a large hickory whip and noiselessly slipped up on the savage, seized him, and gave him a severe whipping, then knocked him into the creek, pointed his rifle at him, and told him to begone. The Indian needed no second invitation, being glad to get off with his life. Hargrove kept the horse until after the Indian had made reparation for the broken furniture in pelts. Then the horse was returned to him, when he mounted and rode off, and never afterward returned to the settlement.

Hargrove was at two different times in the ranging service, and deserves much credit for his woodcraft and bravery in assisting to repel the early Indian attacks, and in his share in driving the Indians from the borders of Indiana territory, thereby making it safe for the habitation of white

settlers. He raised a company of rangers and was made their captain and with them fought bravely in the battle of Tippecanoe. He had a family of fourteen children, seven sons and seven daughters. One thing rather peculiar in regard to his children, and of which the old pioneer was very proud, was that there were seven red headed and seven black headed, all of whom grew to manhood and womanhood. In the year 1836 Mr. Hargrove settled in the neighborhood of Oakland City, where he was a resident until his death, about 1846 or 1847. His wife died about the same time. The most prominent of the sons of Mr. Hargrove and wife was John Hargrove, born in Pulaski county, Kentucky, November 29, 1793. He came to Indiana with his parents in November, 1803. He married Isiphina Latham, daughter of William Latham. The marriage took place December 31, 1818. She was born in Virginia in 1798. She removed with her parents to Kentucky in 1805, came here in 1807, and died March 14, 1877. Her husband died in October, 1874. They had born to them five sons and seven daughters. John Hargrove was for many years a prominent and influential citizen of the county. He filled many official positions of honor and trust, and in early days was an ardent Democrat, and was the recognized leader of the party in this county. In 1825 he was elected justice of the peace and served five years, and at that time was member of the county board of justices. In 1829 he was assessor of the county, in 1831 he was elected as a representative of the county and subsequently represented the district in the state Senate. He held other official positions which are shown in the roster of the county officials.

The Milburns became residents of the county in 1803. They were formerly of Virginia, though they lived a short time in Kentucky. Joseph Milburn and wife brought with them the following children: Robert, John, David, Sally, Jonathan, William, with his son-in-law, Robert Mosley. They settled in the northern part of the county between Patoka and White rivers. The elder Milburn died in 1815, at the age of sixty years, his widow in 1845, at the age of ninety years. One of his sons, John, was captain of a ranger company under the territorial administration of General Harrison, and in 1812 was stationed at Fort Lanotte, on the Wabash river. For this service he was made a pensioner. His death occurred at the age of seventy-six. He left five children, Felix, Irene, Rose, Sarah (Arbuthnot) and Carrie Milburn. David Milburn died in 1861, aged seventy-two, also leaving several children. Another son, Robert, was born in the Old Dominion, and came to this county with the balance of the family. In 1812 he married Nancy Archer. He carried on the trade of hatter for years, afterward becoming



interested in the old steam mill company. He died in 1847, aged sixty two, leaving several children.

John Hinemann and family settled in the northern part of the county in 1803. He was a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1778. He subsequently moved with his parents to Kentucky and thence here. His death took place in 1863, at the age of eighty-five years. His widow afterward died at about the same age.

Another pioneer name here was that of the McClure family. James McClure was born October 6, 1785, in Maryland, and at the age of twelve years he removed with his mother and the balance of the family to Kentucky. His father was a soldier in the Revolutionary war and was killed in one of the last battles of that eventful struggle. In the fall of 1805 Mrs. McClure removed with her family to Indiana territory, and settled on section 13, township 26 south, range 11 west. Her son James had the year previous, in 1804, made a trip to spy out land and he selected the above place as being suitable to making a settlement. Here he made improvements and went back to Kentucky and brought his mother and the balance of the family; besides his mother was his sister Martha. She was the wife of Isaac Montgomery, who afterward became prominent as a citizen of the county. When James McClure came here in 1804 the country was only sparsely settled in the locality bordering on Patoka and White river. James McClure married Martha Ann Warrick. She was born May 24, 1788; her father died in Kentucky and her mother, Mrs. Ellen Warrick, removed with her family to this locality in the year 1806. James McClure and wife had born to them eleven children, ten sons and one daughter: Albert P., March 29, 1809; Edwin, April 7, 1811; James B., November 14, 1812; Ellen J., June 6, 1814; Joseph P., October 6, 1815; William M., February 7, 1819; Henry, May 9, 1820; David H., May 8, 1822; Robert, March 16, 1825; George W., February 22, 1827; John W., December 28, 1830. All of the sons grew to manhood. The first tanyard established in the county was by James McClure, in 1806. He was an active, energetic man, and as an early settler did much to promote the growth and development of the county. He and his wife lived to a good old age. Joseph P. McClure was married February 13, 1834, to Catherine Devin, the daughter of Rev. Alexander Devin.

Another old settler was James Wheeler, who also had a large family, a wife, five sons and four daughters. He was a peculiar sort of a man, fond of fun, and occasionally enjoyed taking part in a hand-to-hand fight, and at gatherings, such as log rollings or muster days, Wheeler was sure to imbibe



quite freely, and then get into a misunderstanding with some one, which would generally result in a fist fight. Wheeler, though a man of small stature, was very spry and active, and mostly came out victorious. He settled in the timber east about five miles from Princeton in the summer of 1805, where he erected a cabin, cleared a small tract of land, but his subsistence for himself and family for the first year was gained principally by hunting, as he arrived too late in the summer to make a crop. He became quite a noted hunter, and proved himself to be quite a valuable acquisition to the settlement. He was foremost in repelling any Indian aggressions and frequently boasted that he was not afraid of the redskins, and he proved it, because on the breaking out of Indian troubles he promptly enlisted, as did three of his sons, and participated in the battle of Tippecanoe. The war over and peace declared, he returned to his country home, where he lived the quiet life of a farmer for a number of years, and he and his wife died after filling in usefulness their allotted time. They left numerous descendants who still reside in the county.

The Montgomerys are among the families whose settlement and history date back several years prior to the organization of the county. They were prominent here for years in political and official circles. The pioneer of this family in this county was Thomas Montgomery. He was one of ten children and the youngest of seven sons born to Hugh Montgomery and wife. Hugh Montgomery was an Irishman by birth, who emigrated to Virginia many years before the Revolutionary war. The seven sons, Thomas among the number, served in the Revolutionary war. In 1793 Thomas Montgomery emigrated to Kentucky and settled in a little town called Mt. Sterling, in Montgomery county, which county, however, was not named until after he settled there, and was so called in honor of his name. Having met with reverses in Kentucky, by not having a good title to his land, he removed to Indiana, in 1805, and settled on section 13, township 3, range 12, on the west bank of Black river, in what is now known as Montgomery township. He married, while yet a resident of Virginia, Martha Crockett. She was a sister of Col. Joseph Crockett, who served under Washington in the Revolutionary war. She was also a first cousin of the famous Davy Crockett, of Tennessee and who so gallantly gave up his life at the Alamo, bravely fighting for Texas independence. Thomas and Martha Montgomery had born to them three daughters and five sons. Their sons were Hugh, Joseph, Thomas, Isaac, Walter; the daughters were Polly, Jennie, Patsey. Joseph married Nancy Davis in Kentucky, and emigrated with his father, as did all the other chil-

dren, to Indiana. Joseph settled on what was known as the Major Smith farm. His children were Isaac, William (who served in the Legislature two years), Patsey, Jefferson, Polly, Betsey and Nancy. Thomas Montgomery, Jr., married Betsey Warrick in Kentucky, and they came and settled on what is known as the old James Stewart farm. His children were: Polly, wife of James Skelton; Nelly, wife of Joseph Roberts; Moses; Nancy, wife of Joseph Skelton; Jacob and Thomas. His wife died, and then he married Katie Teel, and by her he had the following children: Julia, who married Thomas Summers; Lucy, who married a Mr. Mounts; Isaac; Henry; Minerva, who married Joseph Summers, and Katherine.

Judge Isaac Montgomery married, in Kentucky, Martha McClure, the daughter of James McClure. They came in 1805 and settled on what was known as the James Finney farm near Princeton. It is said that he built at that date the first horse grist-mill of the county. He was very prominent here in the early days, was one of the county commissioners, and also was a representative in the state Legislature for twelve years. His children were: Jane, who married John I. Neely, who for many years was a county official; John R., also a well known citizen, county clerk for eight years; Joseph; Archilaus; Thomas; Eliza, who married a Mr. Johnson; Maria, who married a Mr. McGrady. Judge Isaac Montgomery probably attained the most prominence in the county of any of the family. He was a large, athletic man, and in physical appearance was one of the best looking men in the county. He was fond of hunting and was regarded as the best shot in the county. He had a large gun made in Princeton on purpose to kill bears with. In 1852 Mr. Montgomery and wife and eldest son removed to Texas, where he died a few years later. Walter Montgomery married Nancy Roberts in Indiana, and remained on the old farm settled by his father. Their children were: Margaret; Thomas; Warrick, who served two years in the Legislature; Joseph; Isaac; John R.; Martha, wife of Louis Barr; Nellie, wife of Joseph Knowles; Walter; Robert; William; Andrew J.; Polly, who married Smith Mounts. Her children were: Smith; Thomas; Steven; Hugh; Joseph; Nancy, who married A. Emerson; Betsey, who married Henry Ayres; Celia, who married a Mr. Hunt; Jane, who married Capt. Jacob Warrick. Her second husband was Dr. Maddox, of Kentucky, and they had three children. Some years after old Thomas Montgomery emigrated to Indiana, his brother Samuel came and settled on the east side of Black river. He married Polly McFarland of Kentucky, and their children were Polly, James, Robert, Benjamin, John, Samuel, Rachael, Dorcas and Katie.

Gen. Robert M. Evans was one of the most conspicuous men in the early history of Gibson county, being clerk and agent, and, in fact, managing all of the affairs of the county for several years. He was born in Frederick county, Virginia, in 1783. When a small boy, his parents removed to Kentucky, and in 1790 to Tennessee, where, at the age of seventeen, he acted as deputy county clerk in the county in which he was reared. He was married in Kentucky in 1803, to Jane Trimble, sister to Judge Robert Trimble, of the United States supreme court. In 1805 his family removed to Indiana territory, settling two miles north of where Princeton now stands. At the first sale of government land in 1807, he purchased the tract upon which he had settled, and continued to reside there until 1809, when he moved to Vincennes and kept a hotel on Market street. This was the favorite stopping place for all of the old pioneers of Indiana. After two years he returned to the old settlement. At the breaking out of the Indian war in 1811 he joined General Harrison's army, and participated in the battles of Tippecanoe, Thames and other less important engagements, and acquired the reputation of a brave and sagacious commander. He was commissioned brigadier-general and commanded a large body of militia. His brother, William, was killed by the Indians at the battle of Tippecanoe. After the war he returned to his old improvements and it was very soon after that Gibson county was organized. The value of one with his experience and education was soon realized in the manipulation of affairs of government, and he was elected county clerk, and appointed agent for the transaction of the county's business. He continued to hold these positions for several years with satisfaction to the people and honor to himself. He was one of the original proprietors of Evansville and did much toward the early building up and progress of the place. In 1824 he left Princeton and made his home in Evansville. He was, however, a resident of New Harmony for a short time. He returned to Evansville and was a resident there until his death in 1844. His wife passed from this earth in 1840.

In 1810 James, Alexander Lile and Thomas Jefferson Evans, brothers of Gen. Robert M., became residents of the county and afterward of Princeton, where they engaged in business. Thomas J. moved to Iowa in 1840 and was appointed to a judgeship. He died there in the same year. Alexander L. was engaged in the cooper business in Princeton until 1836 when he removed to Evansville. He died there in 1844. Herman S., a printer in Illinois, is another son. James Evans built and operated a wood carding

mill on Main street in 1818, and which business he continued until his death in 1832. He was also largely engaged in farming, and owned the land upon which the southwestern portion of Princeton now stands. He was for many years justice of the peace. Eliza A. married Dr. Andrew Lewis. She died in 1878. W. L. Evans was a merchant in Princeton from 1853 to 1873, and afterward president of the Princeton National Bank, which position he held until his death, which occurred in 1899.

We append the following as a recollection of the venerable Patsey Ralston (nee Neely), widow of Andrew D. Ralston. In regard to the early events she seemed to possess a remarkable memory. She is fifth of a family of nine children born to Joseph and Martha Neely. Her parents came to this county in March, 1805. They made a short stop with John Latham's father, who was then living where Princeton now stands. Subsequently they moved to a farm about three miles from where David Robb and family were living south of White river. Joseph Neely and wife were natives of Pennsylvania. In 1790 Mr. Neely and family moved to Kentucky and lived about two years near Lexington, in that state. They moved to Mercer county, Kentucky, where Mrs. Ralston was born October 17, 1792. The Neely family are of Irish origin. The grandparents of Mrs. Ralston on both her father's and mother's side were born in Ireland. Her father, Joseph Neely, died in 1806 and her mother in 1811. After the death of her parents Mrs. Ralston returned to Kentucky and lived with her sister in Bath county. Here she became acquainted with and married Andrew D. Ralston, November 18, 1817, remaining in that vicinity until May 1, 1818, when she returned to this county with her husband and settled in Princeton. He was a blacksmith and worked at his trade about eight years. In 1826 they moved on a farm one mile southeast of Fort Branch. There Mr. Ralston died January 4, 1829. At that time their family comprised five children: Dr. W. G., Evansville physician; Martha J. Hopkins, Nancy Holcomb, Elizabeth Hemmenway. Third child was accidentally killed on the farm, and the fifth lived in Boonville, Indiana. Mrs. Ralston's two brothers, Gen. John I. and Thomas Neely, were both in the war of 1812. John served as aide-de-camp, and he remained until the close of the war. At the battle of Tippecanoe his horse was shot from under him, and his spur shot from his boot. On his return home at the close of the war he was made a general of the state militia. He was for many years one of the most noted men of the county. He was a son-in-law of Judge Isaac Montgomery. His death occurred about the close of the Civil war. Both of the brothers, when young, assisted in surveying lands





REUNION OF THE WOODS FAMILY AT TURKEY HILL, 1912.

in this part of the state. They were lads of sixteen or seventeen years. John I. was county clerk for a period of about fifteen years. Joseph, another brother, was sheriff of the county one term. When Mrs. Ralston first settled in Gibson county the people went to Kalts mill, located on a stream called river DuShee, to get their grist ground. This mill was about eighteen miles from where they lived. The mill ground corn only. Wagons were not much in use, and people carried their corn on horseback or on a home-made sled. The first preacher Mrs. Ralston heard was Mr. Nixon. When her parents left Pittsburgh they embarked on a large flat boat, which was located with flour and horses for a New Orleans market. They came on down the Ohio as far as Marysville, Kentucky, and thence to Evansville.

About 1804 or 1805 came Jesse Kimball, with his family, and settled on section 24, township 3 south, range 12, six miles south of Owensville. The place was then the site of an Indian village. Kimball raised his humble cabin near a large spring. He was a native of Connecticut, born in 1760, and was a Revolutionary soldier. About 1795 he emigrated to Red Banks, now Henderson, Kentucky, and a few years later came here. His nearest neighbor was six miles away. About 1810 he built a water mill on Black river, a distance of two hundred yards from his cabin. He afterwards built a horse mill, which he operated as late as 1840. He had three sons and two daughters: Elisha, Mary Gates, Sarah Jones, Enoch, Isaac. William B. and Jesse C. are sons of Elisha Kimball, who was born at Red Banks in 1796. Isaac had one son, William, who lived where his grandfather settled. The old pioneer, Jesse Kimball, died November 18, 1857, and is buried on the old homestead. He was very fleet of foot and frequently had foot races with the Indians, and one occasion in a trial of speed he beat a chief running, which so disgusted the latter that he declared that he would never run again.

The Woods family was the largest to come to the county. Joseph Woods, the pioneer, was born in Ireland in 1745, and reared in Virginia, where he married in 1768 and reared a large number of children. From that state he came to Kentucky at a very early day, and in 1807 came to the territory of Indiana, his first stopping place being on river DuShee in Knox county, where, after a residence of one year, he made his settlement in Gibson, on Turkey hill, section 23, township 2, range 11. His sons, John, James, Patrick, Isaac, William P., David L., Samuel H., and daughters, Peggy, Jane and Elizabeth, came to this county with him. Their mode of conveyance was on horseback and in wagons, crossing the Ohio at Red Bank. All of the sons and daughters were either married or married soon after they



came here, and settled around the old gentleman, except William P., who followed school teaching and died an old bachelor. The neighborhood was known as the Woods settlement. It is related that at the early elections the Woods and Montgomery families, by putting their members together, might elect any candidate whom they chose for office. Samuel H. and Isaac Woods were at Tippecanoe. Joseph L. Woods, another son of the old pioneer, came with his family in 1811, and settled in the southeast quarter of section 21. He had six sons and two daughters: Patrick, born in Tennessee in 1809, lived in Princeton; William L. lived on the old homestead; Mary Stone of Fort Branch. (For further particulars of the Woods genealogy, see the biographical sketches of different members of the family.)

William Harrington was one of the first judges of the courts of Gibson county, and the first session of the court held in the county was at his house in May, 1813. Judge Harrington was a native of North Carolina. From there he moved and settled near Nashville, Tennessee, residing there a short time, then became a resident of Kentucky, and in 1807 removed with his family and settled in the vicinity of Fort Branch, Indiana, where he made a crop, and the next season purchased a small improvement of John Johnson a short distance west of Princeton. William Harrington was a brave and gallant man, and participated in the battle of Tippecanoe. Of his two sons, James Harrington was afterward killed by the Indians in the ranging service at Fort Harrison, and Charles, his brother, was also wounded at the same place. The Indians surprised them at daylight and the young men endeavored to get to the fort, when the former was killed and the latter wounded. Judge Harrington had a large family of children, some of whom came to manhood and womanhood, among whom were James, Charles, Thomas and William, Elizabeth Truesdell, Sarah Casey, Jane Brownlee, Mary died young, Irene Jerauld, and Emily. Judge Harrington died in 1831, having been for many years a prominent and conspicuous figure in the early history of the county.

Among the settlers the Carolinas supplied were Thomas and William Archer, brothers. They were natives of Chester district, South Carolina, and came here in 1807. They left their native state in the fall of 1806, and the following spring raised a crop in Kentucky, and late in the fall made their way here. Their mode of conveyance hither was made by four-horse wagons. They crossed the Ohio river at Red Banks. Thomas Archer first located near the clearing of James Robb, north of Patoka, and entered land. The following year William Archer returned to South Carolina, and brought



back with him his father, Robert, and the balance of the family. The old man had been a soldier in the Revolutionary war and was an invalid when he came here and died about ten years later. His home was located on a hill near the Archer cemetery, east of Robert Howe's place. William and Thomas were the only sons of Robert Archer who came. William was single when he came, but it was not long until he married Anna Peters. Her parents were among the early settlers. They reared a family. He was a farmer and resided near Patoka. Robert Archer had six daughters. They all came with their parents. Their names were Isabella, Mary, Rosa, Catherine, Nancy, Margaretta. They all married in this county and many of their descendants are yet living. Mary (Aunt Polly, as she was familiarly called) lived to the age of eighty-four. Thomas Archer was married, and his daughter, Mary N., was born in 1800. His other children who came here with him were Robert and John. Those born after arriving were Samuel, Thomas, David, Sarah, William, Calvin and Beza.

One of the distinguished and early settlers and Indian fighters was Capt. Jacob Warrick. He raised a company of rangers during the Indian troubles of 1811 and, at the request of Governor Harrison, joined the main army at Vincennes and marched against the Indians, and while gallantly leading a charge at the battle of Tippecanoe was killed, being buried on the field. General Harrison, in his official report of that battle, took occasion to commend in the highest terms the bravery of Captain Warrick. He was a Kentuckian by birth, and removed here with his family in 1807, settling in the northwest quarter of section 11, township 3, range 12, about two miles west of Owensville. For that period he was regarded as a man of considerable wealth. He brought with him several slaves, and was probably the first to introduce well-bred horses in this section of Indiana. After his death, his family continued to reside there. One of his sons, John C., began merchandising in Owensville in 1835, where he carried on an extensive business, besides being a large land owner. He also did a large business in shipping by flat boats to New Orleans market, large quantities of corn, pork and other products. He also had a grist mill. He was a man of energy and good judgment and amassed considerable wealth. He died in January, 1847, leaving no children.

John Benson was born in Pennsylvania and in 1788 removed to Kentucky, where he married. In 1807 he emigrated to the northwest quarter of section 35, township 2, range 12, known as the Sylvester Benson place, where he raised the usual humble log cabin. He was a soldier in the war of 1812.

He took part in the battle of Tippecanoe. He lived in the county until 1820, when he removed to Illinois. His brother, William, was born in Kentucky, March 31, 1783, and came to this county in 1816, married, and subsequently bought his brother's place. He was a wheelwright by trade, at which he worked in connection with farming. His children were Martha Smith, Ellen Wilson, Louisa Robinson, Sarah Miller, Lemira Montgomery, and Sylvester Benson, who was born in 1823 and lived on the old place. He was a prominent citizen of the county and served for some time as one of the commissioners.

Jesse and Asa Music, brothers-in-law of John Benson, came with their families the same year and settled about a mile west of Benson. Jesse was mortally wounded in the battle of Tippecanoe, and when the army was marching back, died at Vincennes. About 1845 Asa Music removed with his family to Illinois. The brothers were from Kentucky.

Elisha, William, John and Jesse Barker, brothers, and James Stewart, a half brother, all natives of Kentucky, moved here in 1807, and settled in the Montgomery neighborhood near Owensville. They all had families when they came but Jesse. He married Elizabeth, daughter of William Key, who was one of the early residents of Gibson county. Jesse settled on the southwest quarter of section 1, township 3, range 11, a little north of Owensville, where he lived until his death in 1863.

Another of the early settlers from Virginia was Thomas Waters, who, when a young man, went to North Carolina, where he married, then moved to Kentucky, where his wife died. He again married in 1807, and came with his family and settled on the banks of Maumee creek, in the northeast quarter of section 4, township 3, range 12, where he built a small log cabin and then proceeded to farm. He died about 1825. He had a family of six children on his removal hither, and their names were William W., James R., Thomas, Pathena, Sarah, Nancy. William W. was married and had two children on his arrival in this county with his father. Several were born to him afterwards and many of his descendants are now residents of the county.

The Mounts family in this county are descendants of John and Providence Mounts, natives of Switzerland. They were among the early residents of Philadelphia, and subsequently went to Virginia, and from there to Kentucky, where they became noted Indian fighters. Matthias and Smith, sons of John, became residents of this county in 1807. Smith settled on section 24, township 3, range 12, where he lived until his death. He, as well as his father, was a celebrated Indian fighter, and formed a part of General Wayne's

command during the Indian war. He was fond of hunting and devoted much time to the pleasures of the chase. He also fought in the battle of Tippecanoe. He had a family of eleven children. Matthias Mounts entered a farm later known as the John Hudelson place, and lived there until his death. None of the descendants live in the county at present.

About this time, 1807, came Thomas Sharp, Luke and William Wiley, with their families, and settled in the timber a short distance south of Owensville. A few years later the Wiley brothers moved to Posey county, where one of them was lost in the storm and froze to death. Thomas Sharp cleared a farm where he settled and he lived on it until his death. William Sharp brought his family with him and located in 1808 in the timber southwest of the town of Owensville, and the same year George Sharp, son of Thomas, with his wife and children, erected a cabin two miles southwest of Owensville. He was the first clerk of the Salem Baptist church. His children married and settled in the neighborhood. His son, William, was captain in the militia, also a deacon in the church, and a man of considerable prominence in his neighborhood.

Rev. Stephen Strickland, minister of the Regular Baptist church, settled with his family five miles southeast of Princeton in 1808. He came from Kentucky, raised a family of five sons and four daughters. He was a very devout Christian man and was one of the first to preach the gospel to the few scattering settlers then living near. His death occurred on July 19, 1839. Elisha Strickland came in 1808, and participated in the battle of Tippecanoe.

Another early settler came in 1808, William Clark. He enlisted in the war of 1812, and was stationed in Alabama at the time of the battle of New Orleans.

The Skeltons were also an old pioneer family. Jacob Skelton, Sr., and his brother Robert, and Z<sup>a</sup> Skelton, came and located in what is now Gibson county a few years after their father came in 1810. The most prominent of the family was Jacob, a justice of the peace many years, who settled twelve miles southeast of Princeton. He raised a large family.

Rev. Alexander Devin, a native of Pittsylvania county, Virginia, married Susan Nowlin, of the same county and state. They were married in 1793, and moved to Kentucky in 1798, and in the spring of 1808 came to Indiana territory. They settled on a tract of land half a mile north of Princeton, built a cabin and lived there until 1814. Then they moved to the northeast quarter of section 20, township 2 south, range 10. They had thir-

teen children, twelve of whom grew up. The children were Elizabeth, Lucy, James, Susan, Sarah, Alexander, Jr., Virginia, Joseph, Robert, Peyton, Nowlin, Mary and Catherine. Mr. Devin belonged to the Regular Baptist church, and was one of the first preachers of that denomination in the county. He was an excellent man, and he reared a useful family of children. He died January 3, 1827, and his wife died November 8, 1840.

The Wilkinsons were among the early settlers of the south part of the county. Cary Wilkinson and family came from Barren county, Kentucky, in the fall of 1808 and settled southwest of Fort Branch. He married Sarah Mangrum, daughter of William, Sr. They had eleven children and four died young. Those who grew up were Mary, Betsey, Nancy, William, Rebecca, Delilah, Balaam, Isaiah and Martha. The trip was made from the home in Kentucky in an old-fashioned Conestoga wagon.

Cary Wilkinson lived only a few years after coming here, dying in the fall of 1815. He was survived forty-five years by his widow. In 1808 there were a few Indians in the county, and in the construction of the block-house at Fort Branch, William Wilkinson, then eleven years old, assisted in hauling together some of the logs of the fort. William was born December 18, 1800, and came here with his parents. The Wilkinson family are of English origin and the ancestors of Cary Wilkinson settled in North Carolina prior to the Revolutionary war. It was in that state that he was born, subsequently moving to Kentucky, then to this territory. William Wilkinson and wife had eleven children. About 1830 Mr. Wilkinson became a member of the Christian church, and he ever afterward remained a temperate man.

One of the early educators of Princeton was Major James Smith, a Virginian by birth, who removed with his father's family to Kentucky, and in 1808 to this county. Major Smith served on General Harrison's staff in the battle of Tippecanoe. When Capt. Jacob Warrick was mortally wounded and taken off the field, Smith, at the solicitation of the company, became its captain. Major Smith was one of the delegates from this county to the constitutional convention of the state in 1816. He was appointed the first commissioner of the seminary school township, and acted as such for twenty years. He also held the office of school commissioner for many years, also county surveyor. He married and reared a family, and died in November, 1855, at the age of eighty-two.

Another old settler, and early justice of the peace, was John Braselton, a native of Georgia, who went to Pennsylvania, where he married Elizabeth Brown. From there they removed to Kentucky, and in 1808 came to Gib-

son county on pack horses and located in Pigeon Grove settlement, four miles northeast of Fort Branch. Braselton brought with him a wife and seven children, namely: David B., Jacob, Jane F. Foster, William, Hannah Treble, John, James. In 1810, when the Indians became troublesome, he removed his family to Fort Hopkins north of Princeton. He went to the war as a member of Captain Hargrove's company. He was an early justice of the peace and performed many marriage ceremonies. After the war he settled south of Princeton.

About 1808 came Daniel Putnam and Zachariah Taylor, with their families. Putnam was at one time county commissioner. Among the old and respected pioneer families of the county are the McGarys. Robert McGary emigrated from Kentucky with his family in 1809, and settled in the timber, cleared a small tract of ground, erected a log cabin, in section 9, township 2, range 11, and put out a small patch of corn. He did not raise much corn and had to depend that year on his hunting and bees. As the name would indicate, the McGarys were of Scotch-Irish ancestry. Robert married a Miss Davis. They reared a large family, among whom were Hugh, Harrison D., Daniel, William H., Patsey Crow. The two first mentioned sons were quite noted in the early county. Harrison D., son of Hugh, was a soldier in the Indian war and fought in the battle of Tippecanoe. He was a farmer by occupation. He first married <sup>Matilda</sup> Mattie Gudgel, and second, Nancy Pritchett, daughter of John, an old settler. By this latter union there were three sons, Hugh D., William H. and Joseph K. William H. was a member of Company A, Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was killed at the battle of Stone's River December 31, 1862. Hugh D. enlisted in Company D, Sixteenth Illinois Infantry, Joseph K. in Company E, Forty-second Indiana Regiment. Harrison McGary's home was a half mile west of McGary's Station, where he died in 1847. His wife died in 1879. They were members of the Methodist church.

About the year 1809 to 1810 there was quite an influx of settlers, among whom was John Armstrong, who was descended from Irish parents born in North Carolina. His parents died when he was young and at the age of fourteen he went to sea, where he made his home until he grew to manhood. During his sailor days he was shipwrecked three times. He quit sea-faring and married Mary Swayne. Her parents emigrated at an early period from Scotland and settled on Nantucket island. After his marriage Mr. Armstrong returned to North Carolina, subsequently moved to Kentucky and in 1809, with his family, came to Gibson county. He afterward moved to the

north part of Vanderburg county, where he resided until his death. He had seven children, four sons and three daughters. One of his sons, Miles Armstrong, was a noted hunter and killed a great number of deer and bears. He served as a private soldier at the battle of Tippecanoe and after that war he was made captain of militia. Elsberry, another brother, was also in the Tippecanoe battle. By the marriage of Nancy, the Waters and Armstrong families were united. Other settlers to the county about this time were William Forbes, Charles Cross, Fielding, Zachariah and Oliver Lucas, with their families. Capt. Henry Hopkins settled on the Sanford Howe place. William Latham was an early settler and left many descendants who are residents of Gibson county. Absalom Linn and family also came in 1810. In 1810 Morgan Leathers located with his family in the hamlet later styled Patoka. He had a wife and several children. He was a man of stalwart build and daring courage and was regarded as one of the strongest men of the county. Fist fights at that period were resorted to to settle most difficulties and on a warm August day, a few years after he came here, and at a gathering in Patoka, he had a dispute with John Robb. A ring, as was then the custom, was soon formed and seconds chosen and then the fight began. Both were very powerful men and equally matched. They fought for a long time in the intense heat until both were exhausted and quit. Leathers died a few minutes afterwards from the effects of the severe struggle. His son, William Leathers, who later resided near the old Severns place, was born in Kentucky in 1806 and came here with his parents in 1810 and after he grew up he married for his first wife Mary, the daughter of the pioneer, John Severns. Robert Slaven, with a large family, came in 1810, and carried on the first blacksmith shop at Patoka. His sons, John and Samuel, belonged to Hopkins' company and fought at Tippecanoe. Daniel McFetridge, a native of North Carolina, located in section 6, township 1, range 10, at an early date. He had a family of four children by his first wife and five by a second marriage. John Q. McFetridge is a son of his and Jemina, wife of W. A. Spain, is a daughter of his. Col. Smith Miller came to the county with the McFetridges, and grew to manhood here and married Susan Robb, daughter of James Robb. He was in the constitutional convention of 1851; was a representative in the state Legislature and in 1856 was elected to Congress from this district and re-elected in 1858. He was a Democrat. He died about 1872. Eli Strain, who settled in the county in 1810, was a native of North Carolina. He located a mile and a half west of Princeton. He was in the ranger service and participated in the battle of Tippecanoe. He had a

family of seven children, only two of whom were living in 1884. Other early settlers were James Steward, John Roberts and William Leach with their families. The Overton and Vaughn families were also pioneers. One of the prominent settlers of 1811 was Jesse Emerson, who came from Kentucky and located about five miles southwest of Princeton on the northwest quarter of section 28, township 2, range 11. He erected the usual log house of the day and began carving out of the wilderness a home for himself and family. Upon the organization of the county he was called upon to serve as associate judge of the court and afterward held other offices and places of trust. He was quite a conspicuous man among the early settlers. He died about 1837. Reuben Emerson, brother of Jesse, came to Gibson county in 1813 and settled in section 32, township 3, range 11, where he died in 1832. He reared a good sized family and left a large estate.

Prettyman Marvel was born in Delaware in 1760, where he grew to manhood, married and had two children born to him and removed to Georgia. From there in 1807 he came to Indiana territory, settling in the forest a short distance south of where Princeton was later located, where he resided until 1811. In that year he moved to the southern part of the county and two years later went to Illinois, where, in 1859, he died. His family numbered nine children, one of whom was Patience, who lived to the old age of ninety years. Elisha Marvel, a cousin of Prettyman, brought his family here in 1809 and settled the Samuel Redman place in Johnson township. He had seven children, all deceased in 1884 except Sena Martin, near Ft. Branch. James Knowles, also from Delaware, came in 1811, settling on the southwest quarter of section 23, township 3, range 12. He had nine children.

Samuel Barr, Thomas Alcorn, the Lucases and several others settled in the southwestern part of this county about the date last mentioned.

Elisha Embree was a native of Lincoln county, Kentucky, born in 1801, and in November, 1811, came with his parents to Indiana territory; they settled on a tract of land about two and one-half miles southwest of Princeton. The name of his father was Joshua and his mother's name Elizabeth Embree (nee Edmonson). Joshua was by birth a Kentuckian; his wife of Virginia. It was a densely timbered district in which they settled and they erected a cabin and cleared a small farm. He was a member of the Baptist and his wife of the Christian church; he lived only two years after coming here. His widow subsequently married a Mr. Spencer and lived here until her death, in June, 1829. Elisha Embree received such an education as the district schools of that period afforded, read law with Judge Samuel Hall and began practice



in Princeton in 1826. On March 15, 1827, he was married to Eleanor Robb, daughter of Robert and Mary Robb. Judge Embree for many years was a prominent man of Gibson county. He and his wife had born to them six children: Maria Louisa, James T., Ophelia (died in infancy), Ophelia, Elizabeth (died in infancy), David F. and Milton P. Judge Embree died in 1863. His widow lived to a ripe old age.

Andrew Gudgel, grandfather of the late Andrew Gudgel of Columbia township, was a man whose career is worthy of record in this connection. He was of German origin and settled in Pennsylvania. He was thrice married and was the father of seventeen children. The maiden name of his last wife was Elizabeth Kane. After the Revolutionary war had ended, he, like many of his day, concluded to emigrate to the "Far West," as this section was then styled. So in 1785 he set out with his family for Kentucky, a region then being wrested from the savages by Daniel Boone and his heroic companions. After a tedious trip they arrived at Silver creek, a strip of country between the present cities of Lexington and Frankfort, where he erected a cabin and subsequently built a grist-mill on Silver creek, which was run by water power. He operated this mill many years. Owing to a defective land title in Kentucky he lost a farm of six hundred acres on which this mill was located. He came to Indiana territory in 1811, settling in the big timber about two miles east of present Owensville. Here he cleared a small patch of ground, built a log cabin and subsequently built a better house in which he later died. While in Kentucky he, through exposure, lost the use of his legs, but, with his great energy, he would chop and clear up brush around his cabin for hours, while sitting in a chair. The following incident shows his pluck: During the Indian trouble of about that time his family all went to Fort Branch for protection, where there was then a strong block-house erected for the settlers. This plucky old pioneer would not go to the fort, but insisted on remaining or staying at home in his own cabin to take care of things. The Indians frequently came to his place and would stroll into his cabin and, while the old man was sitting in his chair, fearless of danger, the wild savages would walk around him, frequently patting him on the head and, in their rude fashion, complimented him on his bravery. It is one of the peculiarities of the Indian character to admire bravery in those whom they regard as their foes. His last and third wife survived him a few years. By his last marriage he had three children, Nancy, who married Mr. Teel, and Hetty, who became the wife of Harrison McGary. Both Teel and McGary were old and prominent settlers in that part of the county and many of their descendants



live here yet. The only son by the last marriage was William Gudel, father of the late Andrew Gudel of Columbia township.

In 1812 William French married Mary Breeding in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, of which they were both residents. Immediately after their wedding they gathered together their worldly goods, loaded them on a flat-boat, floated out of the Monongahela into the Ohio, down to the site of Evansville, and then made an overland trip to Patoka, where they squatted on a tract of timber land, erected a cabin, and later built a good brick building. They reared a family of four sons, several of whom resided here a few years ago. Peter Simpson, with a wife and seven children, moved from Kentucky to this county in 1812 and one of his sons, Richard, became a well-known citizen. One of the early merchants of the county was Robert Stockwell, who came here 1815; he did a large business in Princeton for many years. The Kirkman family, from North Carolina, included James, who came in 1806 to Christian county, Kentucky, and in January, 1813, settled in Gibson county, Indiana, west of Owensville, and the next year came to Princeton. He had ten children, the most prominent of whom was Joseph J. Kirkman. He was popular with the masses and was many times elected sheriff of the county. He was a crack shot, which accomplishment was then regarded very highly. He was a great story teller. He died March 9, 1879, in his seventy-ninth year.

Mrs. Nancy Stormont, wife of David Stormont, who was born in Ireland, and emigrated to America before the Revolution, came with a family of eight children and her mother, Mrs. Mary Boyd, to Indiana, in the spring of 1812. Mrs. Boyd was the first person buried in the Archer cemetery. She settled about three miles northwest of where Princeton now stands on the farm where later her son David lived and died. The names of the children were Martha, Mary, Robert, Esther, Samuel, Nancy, David and John. David was born August 7, 1802. Robert was a carpenter and died in Princeton. Nancy married Joseph Hartin of Princeton.

#### PIONEER CUSTOMS.

To the present generation the customs of the old days seem doubly attractive, and to these old people who are left the habits and modes of present-day life do not hold the beauty and fondness of the old-time manners. The generous spirit of hospitality that was inside every threshold in the days of our fathers is not here now. The traveler today, no matter how stormy

the night, must seek his bed the best he can; every door is not open to him as it once was. The neighborly hospitality has disappeared. The predominance of wealth is a new element in American civilization, and with the coming of it there have flown many of the old virtues which are fostered only where common poverty exists. The early settlers were not poor, for what they had was sufficient to make their lives comfortable, without useless luxuries. Their food was wholesome, their clothing warm, and there was nothing else to be desired in the simple routine of their lives. The rifle, the axe, the cabin, were the sole necessities, for with these in hand the forests yielded plentiful game, the streams an abundance of fish, and the strong arm of the pioneer supplied the rest.

The cabins were built by laying large logs down in position as bases. Sleepers were placed upon these, and on top of the sleepers were placed the rough puncheons which were to serve as floors. These were hewn by hand. The logs were then piled up the sides until the height for the eaves had been reached. Then poles were stretched across the tops, projecting about two feet beyond the wall line. On the projected ends were placed the "butting poles," which served to give the line for the first row of clap-boards. The clap-boards were split from logs and laid so as to lap a third over each other. After this was completed, the chinks and cracks were filled with sticks and clay. The fireplace at one end was, of course, indispensable, serving for both heating and cooking purposes. Skins of animals were hung on the interior of the cabin, and thus helped to hold the heat. The inner bark of bass wood was sometimes used for the same purpose. Square windows would be cut through the logs, and greased paper used as a covering. The furniture of the log house harmonized with the house itself, being made of logs, roughly shaped into chairs, benches, beds and tables. Butcher knives were often the only table ware, although knives and forks made of pewter were not uncommon.

The pioneer woman would be a curiosity to the twentieth-century lady, with her split skirts, cosmetics and studied airs. However, she would be a model worthy of emulation. Simplicity was the keynote of the pioneer woman's life. In her habits, customs, work and pleasures, she was accustomed to the very primitive, and she desired nothing else. Little luxuries of dress, elegant habits and the trifles which we have been taught to believe are necessary to a woman's life, were unknown to the pioneer woman. Before the break of dawn these sturdy women were up, arranging the cabin and cooking the food for the day. The men brought in the wild meat, and the wives, daughters and sisters prepared it. Coarse bread, Johnny-cake, greens,

mush and milk, corn, pumpkins, beans, squashes, potatoes, pot-pies, honey, and, most important, the meat of the forest, were the staple articles of food. Maple sugar was much used. Besides the general cooking, the women wove all of the clothing. Linsey-woolsey was the common cloth of the woman. The chain of this cloth was of coarse cotton, and the filling of wool. Blue, turkey-red and copperas were the favorite colors of this rather fantastic cloth. The loom was a necessary article of every household's furniture. Jeans and linsey-woolsey shirts were made for the men, and the women often gathered, ten or twelve in one home, and had a sewing-bee. Head coverings were made from the skins of small animals. Moccasins and heavy hide shoes were worn, although the pioneers were not averse to going barefooted. Quilting bees, sewing circles, corn huskings, house raisings and log rollings were about the only means the settler had for social gatherings. The church buildings were few and miles between, and no regular services were held. Each family conducted its own religious ceremonies, generally before bedtime. The father read the Bible and offered a brief prayer, and never did they partake of a meal without the blessing. This custom is not now so common as it was with the pioneer.

Dancing was indulged in often, and a barrel of liquor was generally on hand, although it was never drunk to excess. Corn huskings were held after the corn had been gathered and piled in a heap at one of the homes. All the young men and young women would congregate and the race was on. The young man finding a red ear among the yellow had the privilege, if he desired, of kissing the prettiest girl present. These huskings usually ended with a dance, which lasted until sunrise. Skill in woodcraft, muscular development, accurate shooting, swiftness of foot, were athletic achievements which the young men strived for, and by these accomplishments they were judged by the fairer sex. Fights were not uncommon, but they were fights good for the soul. Two men with a quarrel to settle did not think of using anything but bare fists. They stood up and fought fairly, and after one was defeated the combatants were usually better friends than ever. The victor by custom poured water for the loser to wash the evidences of the battle away, and then the loser performed the same service for the winner.

## CHAPTER IV.

### ORGANIZATION OF GIBSON COUNTY.

In the beginning all was a wilderness. This wilderness was situated in the Northwest Territory. In 1784 this part of the American republic was ceded to the United States by Virginia. It remained a vast empire, as it were, by itself. The state of Indiana was organized April 19, 1816, and the following June adopted its first constitution. Gen. Arthur St. Clair was first governor of Indiana Territory; William H. Harrison, governor from 1800 to 1812, and Thomas Posey from 1812 to 1816. The first governor of the state of Indiana was Jonathan Jennings, serving from 1816 to 1822.

In March, 1813, what is now Gibson county was made a separate county organization, it having before that been a part of Knox county. Since then portions of its territory have been taken off and assisted in making the counties of Posey, Vanderburg, Pike and Warrick. It derived its name from Gen. John Gibson, a gallant soldier of the French and Indian and Revolutionary wars. By birth he was a Pennsylvanian, born in Lancaster in May, 1740, and was well educated. He was of Scotch-Irish ancestry. In his youth he served under General Forbes, who commanded an expedition against Fort DuQuesne, the present site of Pittsburgh. In 1763 he was captured by the Indians and was adopted by an Indian squaw whose son he had slain in battle. With them he had an opportunity to master several languages, as well as learn the customs of various Indian tribes. This made him efficient as a trader and government official. He was finally released and returned to business at Pittsburgh. It was he who later translated and put into fine English the celebrated speech made by Logan the Mingo chief, which every school boy has read and committed to memory in his school days. In 1800 he was appointed territorial secretary of Indiana, holding that office until 1816. While General Harrison was engaged in the war of 1812, Gibson was acting governor. In old age he was afflicted with an incurable cataract, and he died while residing with his son-in-law, George Wallace, at Braddock's Fields, near Vincennes, in May, 1822.

Previous to the meeting of the Legislature by which Gibson county was organized, the people had considered favorably the formation of a new

county and had appointed a committee to attend the Legislature for that purpose. These things were all taking place an even hundred years ago, and, really, no other century in the world's history has compared in any degree to this for its achievements. Within this century—the lifetime of Gibson county—the submarine telegraph was placed on the vast ocean's bed and transmits news from continent to continent; McCormick invented the mowing and reaping machine, that has revolutionized agriculture the world over; the Atlantic and Pacific oceans have been connected by highways of steel and iron; great cities have been reared on the wilderness plains of the then unknown West.

#### LEGAL ORGANIZING ACT.

The legislative act creating Gibson county was, in the main, in the following words:

“That from and after the passage hereof all that part of Knox county which is included in the following boundaries, shall form and constitute two new counties, that is to say, beginning at the mouth of the Wabash, thence up the same, with the meanders thereof to the mouth of White river, thence up White river with the meanders thereof to the forks of White river, thence up the east fork of White river to where the lines between sections number 20 and 29 in township No. 1 north, of range No. 4 west, thence with said line of Harrison county, thence with the line dividing the counties of Harrison and Knox, to the Ohio river, thence down the Ohio river to place of beginning.

“Be it further enacted that the tract of country included within the aforesaid boundaries be and is hereby divided into two separate and distinct counties, by a line beginning on the Wabash river and known and designated by the name of Rector's Base Line, and with said line east until it intersects the line of Harrison county and that from and after the 5th day of April, 1813, the tract of country following within the southern division thereof shall be known and designated by the name and style of Warrick. And the northern division thereof shall be known and designated by the name and style of the county of Gibson. That the said counties shall severally enjoy all the rights, privileges and jurisdictions which to separate counties of the territory do or may properly appertain and belong. Provided always that all suits, pleas, complaints, actions and proceedings which may before the 5th day of May, 1813, have been commenced, instituted and pending within the present county of Knox, shall be prosecuted to final judgment and effect in

the same manner as if this act had never been passed. And provided also that the territorial and county levies which are now due within the said bonds of the said new counties shall be collected and paid in the same manner and by the same officers as they would have been if the creation of the said new counties had not taken place.

"Be it further enacted that so soon as the place for holding the courts for the said county of Gibson be established, the judges of the courts of common pleas in said county shall within six months thereafter proceed to erect the necessary public buildings for the same, in such place in the same manner as is required by law in respect to other counties, and after the public buildings are so erected, the courts of the said county shall adjourn to the said place at their next term after the same shall have been completed, which shall be and the same is hereby declared to be the seat of justice of the county of Gibson. Be it further enacted that until the public buildings of the said new county shall be completed the court of common pleas for the county of Gibson shall be held at the house of William Harrington, in said county. Provided also that all officers, both civil and military, in the bounds of the said new county shall continue to exercise the functions of their respective offices as officers of the said new county until some other legal organization shall take place in same manner as if the formation of the said new county had not taken place.

"JAMES DILL,

"Speaker of the House of Representatives.

"JAMES BEGGS,

"President of the Legislative Council.

"Approved March 9, 1813.

"JOHN GIBSON,

"Secretary of the Territory."

#### COUNTY DIVIDED INTO TOWNSHIPS.

The first term of the court of common pleas convened at the house of William Harrington, Monday, May 10, 1813. This house was one mile and a half west of the present city of Princeton. It was a double log house. It was blown down in June, 1814, by a terrible hurricane. The building was roofed with clapboards, which were held in place by weight poles, and when the building fell one of Mr. Harrington's daughters was crippled. The house was immediately rebuilt. Those present at this term of court were William Harrington, Isaac Montgomery and Daniel Putnam, all judges.

The court at once proceeded to set off civil townships, in the following order: All that portion of the county east of Congo's creek, lying in the bounds of Gibson county, form one township to be designated by the name of Madison township, and that tract of country west of Madison township, and lying between White river and Patoka (spelled in the record erroneously "Pattoco") river, Pike county, form a township known as White River township, and the tract of country lying between Patoka river and Anderson's creek, from the mouth thereof and up the same to where John Barber now lives, thence due south to the line of Warrick county, form a township known as Patoka. Ordered that all that tract of country lying between Anderson's creek, the Wabash river and Black river, up to the plantation of James Mutes, thence due south to the line of Warrick county, form Montgomery township; that portion of country south and west of Black river, and in the bounds of Gibson county, to form and be known as Black River township.

Thus were five sub-divisions of Gibson county set off by the first court. Commissioners for assessment were appointed by the judges as follows: In Madison township, Hosea Smith; in White River, Jonathan Gulick; in Patoka, John Barker; in Montgomery, John W. Maddox, and in Black River township, Thomas Robb. Thus was the county's first machinery set in motion.

#### LOCATING THE COUNTY SEAT.

At a special session of the court of common pleas held February 14, 1814, with Judges William Harrington, Joseph Montgomery and Daniel Putnam in charge, matters of great importance came up, including the locating of a seat of justice for Gibson county. It was at that date the locating committee appointed by the territorial Legislature, 1813, made their report. They reported that they had fixed upon the northeast quarter of section 7, in township 2 south, range 10 west, one hundred and sixty acres, which was purchased of the United States government, and it was ordered by the court that the first payment, eighty dollars, be made. Henry Hopkins had previously donated eighty acres adjoining the above purchase. Upon request of the commissioners Robert M. Evans, as county agent, entered the aforesaid quarter section and afterward transferred it to the county. The commissioners who located the county seat were William Prince, Robert Elliott, Abel Westfall and William Polk.

## TOWN IS NAMED.

The court then adjourned until Wednesday, February 16th, at the home of Henry Hopkins, and it was at that session that this action was recorded, the name for the seat of justice having been hit upon by drawing of lots among the commissioners, Captain Prince winning.

"The court took into consideration the propriety of establishing some suitable name for the seat of justice for Gibson county; whereupon ordered that the seat of justice in and for the county of Gibson be hereafter known and designated by the name and style of Princeton.

"The court then went into the consideration of a plan for the town of Princeton.

"Whereupon the following plan was adopted, viz: The publick square and seat for the publick buildings is to be laid off in the most suitable manner so as to include as near central as convenient a certain stake to be set up by the judges of the court; the said publick square is to be laid off eighteen poles square, making two acres and four poles; the town, both in and out lots, to be laid off from the publick square in such manner as to leave each street in said town sixty feet wide, and the in lots to be laid in squares of eighteen poles each way; each square is to be divided into four equal squares, so as to make each in lot nine rods square containing one-half acre and one square rod each. The out lots to be laid off in such manner as may be thought most suitable by the agent when the same comes to be surveyed.

"There shall be four streets laid out, two on each side of the square of lots on which the publick square lies, extending from the north to the south side of the town tract—the said lots to be sold on the following terms, viz: One-third of the purchase money to be paid within six months from the day of sale, the balance in twelve months from the day of sale, the sale to commence on the fourth Monday of March next, and continue three days, viz: from ten o'clock in the forenoon until three o'clock in the afternoon of each day."

However, at the next session, March 10, 1814, at the Harrington home, some alterations were made so that each lot should contain one-half acre and one square rod. Meantime action relative to the public buildings was being taken.

The surveys had been made by Ebenezer Buckingham and John Breathitt and on the date in March when sale opened the first lot was sold to Alexander Devin for sixty-one dollars and fifty cents, at the southeast corner of the



public square where the Shoptaugh drug store now is. Mr. Devin also bought other lots at smaller sums. April 1st James Stone bought a lot for sixty-one dollars and fifty cents and A. Donnell got one for fifty-three dollars. The next day Joseph Stoker paid one hundred and fifty dollars for one on the square, and William Barker bought a number of lots. Barker went in for speculation, and lot business was real lively for a while.

The county commissioners made the following statement concerning the selection of the new county seat:

"In making the selection for the seat of justice for Gibson county your commissioners have had due regard to future divisions of said county, as well as the present, and future prospects of population and the country that will admit population. Previous to fixing any site your commissioners examined that district of country acknowledged by all to be the most central as well as the most eligible point for the seat of justice of Gibson county. Although the point fixed upon is not the very spot on which the center will fall (taking into view a future division), yet your commissioners were of the opinion that local advantages would justify their receding a mile or two from the very center itself. In giving your honors a view of the inducements which led to this point as the proper site for the seat of justice, it may not be improper to show that in the opinion of your commissioners the future division of the county of Gibson will be by the range line which divides ranges 7 and 8, and if so, the place now fixed upon will ever remain the permanent seat of justice for that part which lies west of the contemplated division line.

"In ascertaining whether the northeast quarter of section 7, township 2 south, range No. 1 west, could be procured it was necessary to prevent speculation that some one in whom your commissioners could confide should be consulted on that subject. They, therefore, consulted Robert M. Evans and Isaac Montgomery, Esqs., from whom they learned that that quarter section could be secured at the United States price for the county. Colonel Evans now informs us that he has made the entry and paid the deposit for the quarter section and is ready to transfer it to any person whom the court may appoint for that purpose. The bond of Henry Hopkins for the conveyance of his donation, with the exception therein specified, as also the offers of donations which we received, are herewith submitted."

The court then appointed Gen. Robert M. Evans agent for the county. It was this Evans for whom the city of Evansville was named, when later organized by him. Agent Evans gave two thousand dollars bond for the faithful performance of his duties, James McClure and William Lathom being his bondsmen.

Concerning this organization of Princeton the following item published in the *Vincennes Sun*, March 12, 1814, will be of interest here: "A notice of the first sale of lots in Princeton, Indiana, to take place on the fourth Monday in March, 1814, described Princeton as situated in Gibson county, on Richland creek, a beautiful and never failing system, about three miles from Sovern's ferry, on Pattoco, and about four miles from Columbia, on the same river, at each of which places there is an excellent mill site, where nothing but labor is wanting to the erection of good saw mills. Princeton being situate about central between the mouth of Big Pigeon and Vincennes, at a place where nearly all the public roads leading through the county will naturally concentrate, cannot fail to become a flourishing and populous town."

A perusal of this prospectus of Princeton, and the advantages of its location, issued by a prophet a hundred years ago, will cause a smile by people of Princeton today, especially when they think of the advantages afforded by the location on the beautiful and never failing stream of Richland creek, which is now the very insignificant town branch.

## CHAPTER V.

### COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

Counties, like states and nations, have a government peculiar to themselves. Of recent years the county commissioners, or supervisors, are the men who are entrusted with the affairs of the county. They see that proper buildings, roads and bridges are provided; also see that taxes are levied and collected according to law and that the schools are kept up by appropriations and that the unfortunate poor within the county be well cared for, when they become county charges. These and a score more duties devolve upon the several commissioners who set their own time for meeting in sessions and are really the head of the county government.

Gibson county has been under various forms of local authority since its organization in 1813. First the business of the county was in the hands of the court of common pleas, which lasted until the change was made to the county commissioner system, which existed until 1824, when a change was effected by which the affairs were in the hands of persons known as justices of the peace for the county, one from each civil township in the county. These were known as boards of justices, the first of which met September 6, 1824. Their last meeting was July, 1831, after which was inaugurated the present system of county commissioners. But, not content with "letting well enough alone," the lawmakers again changed and there was again the board of justices. From 1836 on the commission system has obtained in Indiana, and well it is, too. While it is doubtful whether or not the system is as perfect as in other commonwealths, yet the present system has few faults.

### PROCEEDINGS OF EARLY COURTS AND COMMISSIONERS.

After attending to the matter of setting off and organizing the first five civil townships in this county, the attention of the law-making body was called to that of the appointment of Jesse Emerson and William McCormick, trustees, to manage the reserve sections of land for the use of schools.

At the May, 1813, term a tavern license was granted to Gervis Hazelton upon the payment of a fee of four dollars per year. The rates to be charged were as follows: One meal of victuals, twenty-five cents; one gallon of corn, twelve and a half cents; one-half gallon oats, twelve and a half cents; one

night's lodging, twelve and a half cents; horse at hay, twelve hours, twenty-five cents.

On May 11, 1813, the matter of providing for the first laid-out road in the county was taken under advisement. The recorded proceedings show the following: Joseph Decker, of White River township, presented a petition that a road fifteen feet wide be cut out (it must be remembered by the reader that in 1813 that section of this county was densely timbered) from Decker's ferry, on White river, to Severns' ferry, on Patoka river, thence to intersect the Saline road at or near the plantation of Robert M. Evans. And it was also ordered that Abraham Decker, Robert Falls and James Robb be appointed to view and mark out the road. The court also appointed Robert Crow supervisor of the above road with authority to call on all the working hands in White River township to assist in making the same, and was also ordered to keep the road in repair when made. This thoroughfare was the first county road built and maintained after the organization of the county. Jeremiah Harrison was appointed supervisor of the road from Hogan's ferry, on Patoka, to Richland creek, near the residence of William Harrington, also from Severns' ferry, on the Patoka, to where the road intersects the Saline road. Azariah Ayers was appointed supervisor of the road from Richland creek to Anderson creek, and was fully authorized to call on all the able-working men between those two creeks in the bounds of Patoka township (except those residing on the waters of Pigeon) to maintain and keep the same in good repair. The court appointed Joshua Embree supervisor of the road through Montgomery township, from Anderson's creek to opposite John Hunter's. All residents east of Hunter's place were required to assist in maintaining this road. And for the Saline road, from opposite John Hunter's to Black River, Robert Anderson was appointed supervisor and the residents west of Hunter's, in Montgomery township, were required to assist in keeping the road in repair. John Waller was appointed supervisor for that part of the Saline road which lies in Black River township. Probably the most important road projected in this time was from the south end of Robert M. Evans' lane to the line of Warrick county, there to intersect with a road then opening from Anthony's Mill toward Patoka. Elias Baker was appointed supervisor. It was required that the road be cut twenty feet wide and the residents living in the two Pigeon settlements were to aid in making the road and for so doing were to be exempt from working on any other road. James McClure was appointed supervisor of the road from the south end of Robert M. Evans' lane to where the new road leaves the old Red Bank road and he was authorized to summon the hands living between Richland

creek and Patoka, together with those on the south end of Richland creek, within one mile of said road to assist in keeping the same in good condition. In all there were eight road districts made by this court and each was provided with a supervisor.

It was about this date that a second inn or tavern license was granted, this one to Eli Hawkins, of Columbia, which was changed in name to Patoka, the first town in Gibson county platted after the organization had been perfected and Princeton had been laid out.

#### FIRST CONSTABLES IN THE COUNTY.

The county court appointed the following as the first set of constables in Gibson county: Madison township, Abraham Pea; White River township, James Crow, Jr.; Patoka township, William Scales; Montgomery township, William Stewart; Black River township, Pater Jones. A set of overseers for the care of the county's poor was also selected at this session in 1813.

Ferry licenses were granted at the May term, 1813, and the following ferry rates were fixed by the court:

Joseph Decker's ferry on White river.....	\$4.00
Garvis Hazelton's ferry on White river.....	4.00
John McJunkins' ferry on White river.....	4.00
Aaron Decker's ferry on White river.....	4.00
Ebenezer Severns' ferry on Patoka.....	1.00
Edmund Hogan's ferry on Patoka.....	2.00

The rates to be charged at these ferries for transporting people and stock were as follows: One dollar for each four-wheeled vehicle, carriage and driver; for each two-wheeled carriage, horse and driver, fifty cents; each man and horse, twelve and a half cents; each horse, six and a fourth cents; each head of cattle, four cents; sheep and hogs, two cents each.

The business of these first sessions was fraught with much labor and everything was recorded in a fine, readable handwriting, as will be seen today in searching the records at the court house. These proceedings are signed by William Harrington, P. J. (which meant President Justice).

#### THE TAX LEVY OF 1813.

The following was ordered: For each one hundred acres of first-class land, twenty-five cents; for each hundred acres of second-class land, eight and one-fourth cents; for each hundred acres of third-class land, six and one-

fourth cents; for each horse creature, over three years old, thirty-seven and one-half cents.

Finding that more items should be added to the innkeeper's rates, the county authorities, in 1814, made this order of rates to be charged the public at taverns within Gibson county: Each half pint of whisky, eighteen and three-fourths cents; each half pint of peach or apple brandy, twenty-five cents; each half pint of wine, rum, or French brandy, fifty cents; for each quart of cider or cider oil, twenty-five cents. Those were days when the "fathers of the county" did not see any harm in drinking spirituous liquors; in fact, it was several decades before the matter of temperance was agitated to any considerable extent by the people in this country.

The matter of providing roads and suitable fording places and bridges occupied the attention of the county officials more than any other one item of routine business. It has ever been the case in all new countries.

At the January, 1814, session the meeting was still held at the house of William Harrington, with the same judges as before presiding. The first term held at the new court house—the special term of June 19, 1815—was indeed an important one in the business of the county, as it witnessed the dedication of the "temple of justice," and had presiding judges as follows: Willis C. Osbourne and Jesse Emerson.

The printing bill for this county was eleven dollars in 1816, and the printer was Elihue Stout, of Vincennes. At the same session William Prince was allowed one hundred and twenty-five dollars for services as county agent for one year.

At the May term, 1816, perhaps the most important transaction was the election of delegates to a constitutional convention. The election was held on May 13, 1816, and those elected as superintendents by townships were: From Madison township, Henry Brenton, the election held at the house of Hosea Smith; for White River township, Jonathan Gulick, election held at the house of James Robb; for Patoka township, Isaac Montgomery, election at the court house; for Montgomery township, James Stewart, election to be held at the house of Walter Montgomery; for Black River township, Peter Jones, election at the house of Langston Drew.

At the May session in 1816 it was ordered that a new township be made from a part of Madison township, and that the same be known as Harbinson township. This was the sixth township formed in Gibson county.

Up to the last date mentioned the public square at Princeton had been laid out to the commons, but the authorities at this time ordered a good post and rail fence to enclose the grounds.

## FIRST BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

The county records show that the first board of county commissioners met at Princeton, February 10, 1817. William Hargrove and Thomas Montgomery appeared with their credentials of office. Their oath was taken before and signed up on record by Robert M. Evans, clerk, and Henry Hopkins, sheriff.

Among the first acts performed by the commissioners was the dividing of the county into three townships and establishing the boundaries of the respective townships as follows: That part of the county north of the Patoka river and west of the line dividing the county of Gibson and Pike was designated as White River township. That part south of the Patoka river and between said river and Anderson's creek and a due south course from the head of said creek to the line dividing the counties of Gibson and Posey, shall constitute Patoka township. That part of the county west of Anderson's creek and a line drawn due west from the head of the same to Posey county and north of the line dividing the counties of Gibson and Posey was declared Montgomery township.

Following came the first election of justices of the peace as shown by the record. The commissioners ordered an election to be held at the house of Phillip Briscoe, in Montgomery township, for the election of two justices and that Joseph Montgomery be appointed inspector of said election. It was also ordered that an election take place the same day in Princeton, Patoka township, for the election of two justices and that George Chapman be appointed inspector. And also at the house of James Robb an election be held the same day for the election of two justices for White River township, and the inspector of this election was David Robb. The sheriff was directed to serve copies of the above orders on the respective inspectors and advertise the said elections ten days previous to the holding of the same, and to provide the necessary polls and boxes. As there were no newspapers in the county at that time, the sheriff advertised by posting notices in three different places in each of said townships.

On May 12, 1817, James Stuart presented a certificate of his election as a county commissioner and took his seat as such, the following then composing the board: William Hargrove, James Stuart and Thomas Montgomery.

The board increased the rate of taxation somewhat over the previous year. Among the interesting items enumerated in the long list of taxables occurred these: Every slave or person of color over twelve years of age, two

dollars. For every billiard table, fifty dollars. For each hundred acres of first rate land, thirty-seven and a half cents. For each hundred acres of second-class land, twenty-five cents, and twelve and a half cents for the third rate land. For each town lot, fifty cents on each hundred dollars of its value.

It will be observed that up to this time and during the administration of affairs, under the territorial laws, slaves were not taxed. But after the admission as a state and the adoption of the constitution, and the promulgation of laws under the same, slaves in Indiana became taxable property. On the 12th of May, 1817, the commissioners appointed James W. Jones county treasurer, and directed him to file a bond, with approved security, in the sum of two thousand dollars; heretofore the sheriff had been ex-officio collector. The commissioners at this meeting appointed supervisors for the various road districts.

The county agent was instructed to contract with some suitable person to build an estray pen, forty feet square, in the northwest corner of the public square.

The blanks and books for the use of the different offices for the year 1817 cost twenty-one dollars, which was not very high in the light of present-day bills for such books.

On November 17, 1817, the sheriff filed a protest with the board with regard to the insufficiency of the jail, stating that it was not a safe place to confine criminals or even debtors.

#### WHIPPING POST.

For the year 1818 the record shows that a certain citizen was indicted for passing a counterfeit note on one Marshall D. Tarleton. He was also indicted for passing another on John Arbuthnot. He pleaded guilty in the first instance and was sentenced by the court to pay a fine of thirty dollars and receive on his bare back twenty-five lashes. Whipping for crimes was in vogue for many years in the territory and state of Indiana, but long years since has been abolished.

At the February meeting of the county board new rates of crossing the lower bridge at Patoka were fixed as follows: Team and wagon with driver, thirty-seven and a half cents; each two-wheeled carriage, twelve and a half cents; each man or horse, six and one-fourth cents; footman, three cents; meat cattle, three cents a head; sheep or hogs, one and one-half cents each. It will be seen that at that date it cost a man a fraction more than six cents to cross a bridge one hundred and fifty feet long, but things had so changed in



the early eighties that a man could have crossed the great steel bridge at St. Louis for five cents. The wooden bridge of 1819 at Patoka cost but a hundred or two hundred dollars, while the steel bridge over the Mississippi at St. Louis cost more than thirteen million dollars.

In 1820 the board was chiefly burdened with road matters, hearing petitions and reading remonstrances for same, and the appointment of road overseers or superintendents. At the May term, that year, besides the regular tax list, the board added these items for taxation: On each four-wheeled pleasure wagon, one dollar and twenty-five cents; on each two-wheeled pleasure wagon, one dollar; each silver watch, twenty-five cents, and on each gold watch, fifty cents.

The taking of the 1820 census of Gibson county cost the county twelve dollars and forty-four cents, paid to Charles Harrington. The order reads that he was to receive two dollars per hundred, which would make the population at that date about six hundred and twenty-two, but it is believed that the enumerator failed to get the census taken correctly, for there were more people here than this would indicate.

At the November term in 1821 the board ordered that the county treasurer be cited to appear before them and show cause why he had not proceeded against the sheriff and collectors for delinquent taxes, and for his not carrying out the orders of the board he was suspended from office, and James W. Hogue was appointed to fill the vacancy thus made in that office. The county agent was instructed to make all needed repairs on the court house, also to proceed to immediately make collection of all monies due the county on lots sold in Princeton. The tax that year amounted to eight hundred and two dollars and twenty-five cents.

At the May term, 1822, the board fixed the rate of tavern licenses in Gibson county at twelve dollars, which in reality allowed them all to run a bar in connection with their tavern, and they were limited each year by a fee which should be charged on different kinds of entertainment, including the fixed prices of liquors.

In November, 1822, August Lavelliott was authorized to establish a ferry on the Wabash river from the Indiana shore to the opposite bank of Coffee island. He was compelled to have "good and sufficient" boats for the carrying of passengers and stock.

In the May, 1823, term Johnson township was formed by the commissioners.

In August, 1824, Washington township was formed by the board.

## COUNTY GOVERNMENT CHANGES AGAIN.

According to an act of the General Assembly, passed January 31, 1824, the board of county commissioners ceased to exist, and a board of justices of the peace took its place in county government affairs. The first meeting of the board of justices was held September 6, 1824. The members of this board consisted of the following: James Evident, president; James Kitchens, Alexander Johnson, Frederick Bruner, William DePriest, Charles Harrington, Phillip Briscoe, Lewis Harman, Jonathan Gulick. The first act in their office was to grant a tavern license to William Daniel.

At their September, 1825, meeting Columbia township was formed. At the November term, that year, William B. Demick was appointed trustee of the seminary fund.

In January, 1826, the justices appointed Robert Stockwell county agent. At the March term, 1828, Elisha Embree was appointed county agent. Jesse Emerson was appointed to build a bridge across Indian creek, where the state road crossed the same. He was to work in conjunction with the state commissioner of post roads. One-half of the expense was to be paid by this county, the other half by the state. An order went forth from this meeting to the effect that in case of persons refusing or failing to pay their taxes when delinquent they should be obliged to pay twice the original amount.

The records do not show much of historic interest until along about the date of May, 1831, when under the new law enacted by the changeable whims of the Indiana Legislature, another form of county government was ushered in. The old justices consequently ordered the county divided into districts for the purpose of electing county commissioners, to-wit: White River township, as now laid off, to be the first district, Patoka and Columbia townships to be the second, and Montgomery and Johnson to constitute the third district. The last meeting of the old board of justices of peace for the county was held in July, 1831, when there were present Abram B. Harper, James Evans, William McClary, Frederick Bruner, Thomas J. Montgomery, Jonathan Gulick and Michael H. Milton. No business was transacted further than to turn over the affairs of the county to the newly qualified board of county commissioners, which office had been inaugurated for the second time in the state's history.

## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

September, 1831, the commissioners for the three districts of Gibson county met. They were as follows: Charles Jones, for the long term of three years; John Milburn, for the two-year term, and Samuel H. Shannon, for the one-year term.

The grand and petit jurymen were then only allowed seventy-five cents per day. This shows how close things were run in those pioneer days in the county, and really it was a matter of necessity and not stinginess, as the money in the country, under the financial and banking systems that obtained, afforded by no means sufficient means to do otherwise.

In May, 1832, an order was made that the United States field notes made at Vincennes be transcribed and properly made of record here. John I. Neely was appointed a special agent for the county, to convey to the board of trustees of the Patoka "regular" Baptist church a lot in the town of Princeton, for the sum of thirty dollars.

The September term of 1832 was full of important business. A number of tavern and store licenses were granted, road districts formed, roads and bridges ordered surveyed and built, etc. One hundred and sixty dollars was appropriated for the construction of a bridge across the Patoka at Crow's and Kirk's mills. A fire-proof clerk's office was ordered erected, and the contract for same was awarded to John I. Neely and Samuel Hall.

## NAVIGATION OF THE PATOKA.

The people desiring the improvement of the Patoka so as to afford a better and safer means of navigation, the board ordered the same laid off into districts and that commissioners be appointed to cause the necessary work to be performed. From the mouth of the Columbia mill, formed district No. 1, with John Alexander, superintendent; from Columbia mill to where the Patoka strikes Pike county formed district No. 2, with Richard M. Kirk as superintendent. It should be remembered that at that date the Patoka furnished a water highway by which many of the products of Gibson county were sent away to far distant markets.

## STILL ANOTHER FORM OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

In accordance with another law of commonwealth, the county government was again changed back to that of a board of justices. The first of such

boards convened in March, 1835, when the following constituted the members present: Asa C. Mills, Duter Jerauld, William French, Thomas J. Montgomery, A. D. Foster, Jonathan Gulick, Isaac Welburn, Adam B. Harper, Joshua Duncan.

Among the early matters worth here recording was the following order concerning a county seal. It was that a seal should be made of brass, inscribed with the plow and scales and lettered, "Commissioners of Gibson County, Indiana."

About this date more appropriations were made for the completion of the navigation improvements on the Patoka river. But it must be said such money was of no avail, for the stream was never made navigable far from its mouth, as it filled up with drift and flood wood, making the project valueless.

At the November term, 1838, the board received the report of the commissioners to build a bridge across the Patoka at Columbia (now Patoka), the cost of which was \$7,160.05. It was well built. At the same meeting the board organized Wabash township, which was taken from the western part of Montgomery township.

At the January term, 1839, the county board, which had again come to be known as "County Commissioners," met on the 7th day of the month and made this notation and adjourned: "Ordered, that said board do adjourn instanter to the clerk's office in said town of Princeton, the court house being unfit for the session of said board." After some routine work, including road and bridge matters, the board proceeded to the appointment of John R. Montgomery and Elias S. Terry, commissioners to procure plans and estimates for a court house for Gibson county. They were also ordered to ascertain of the banks at Vincennes and Evansville on what terms funds for building the same could be procured. The board had evidently got cold feet that January morning and proposed to have warmer quarters!

Coming down through the years to the opening of the Civil war, one finds but little more than regular routine work in the minutes of the county commissioners' records. But at a special term held April 24th—less than two weeks after Fort Sumter had been fired upon by the secession guns—County Commissioners James Hudleson, Henry Gambrel and Joseph Devin assembled, at the request of the county auditor, who had power to thus call special meetings of the county board. The call was for the express purpose of taking some definite action regarding the making of appropriations out of the county treasury for the military defense of Gibson county. The commissioners concluded that they had no power to thus appropriate public money.





GIBSON COUNTY COURT HOUSE.

Joseph Devin, however, dissented from this opinion. He was a merchant of Princeton at that time, and proved himself a true citizen and patriot as well. Later the county board rescinded their ruling and did appropriate funds for the relief of families, members of whom were away in the Union army. Sometimes the county was without necessary funds and this same commissioner, Devin, furnished both money and goods to the soldiers' families who needed it, thereby preventing a discount of county orders. This should ever stand on record as a monument to his worthy name.

#### FORMATION OF UNION TOWNSHIP.

The last civil township created in Gibson county was Union, which territory was set off from Patoka and Johnson townships by an order of the board of county commissioners at their May meeting in 1890, upon the petition of many citizens living in the townships of Patoka and Johnson. The land included in this newly created sub-division of the county was described as follows: "Beginning at the northeast corner of section 1, township 3, range 10 west; thence to the northwest corner of the northeast quarter of section 3, township 3, range 11 west; thence south to the southwest corner of section 15, township 3, range 11 west; thence west to the northwest corner of section 19, township 3, range 11 west; thence south to the southwest corner of section 30, township 13, range 11 west; thence east to the southeast corner of section 25, township 13, range 10 west; thence north to place of beginning."

Asa F. Atterbery was appointed by the commissioners as the trustee of the newly formed township, and R. S. Walters was appointed assessor. The commissioners who signed the above order were Phillip Martin and E. C. Farmer.

#### GIBSON COUNTY'S COURT HOUSES.

The first business of this county was transacted at the private residence of William Harrington. This included the first terms of court. The first court house was not occupied until June, 1815, as will be observed by the following. Gibson county has had three court houses and the same number of jails.

William Harrington, at whose house the first seat of justice and first terms of court were held, from the first organization of the county to June 19th, the day on which the business was first transacted in the new court

house, was allowed the sum of fifteen dollars on one occasion, as about half the total amount he was to have for the use of his house, or rather certain rooms in his residence.

The board of county commissioners ordered the county agent, Robert M. Evans, to let the contract for making brick for the construction of the first court house, at a cost of not to exceed five dollars and fifty cents per thousand. These bricks were made on the public square, near where they were needed.

The general plan of this first temple of justice for Gibson county was about as follows: The walls were of brick, thirty-three by forty feet in size; the foundation was laid eighteen inches below the surface of the ground; the height of the lower story was twelve feet; above the bottom of the sleepers, which were one foot above the ground, the wall of the lower story was two and a half brick thick and the upper story two brick; there were two chimneys, with fire-places. The brick and all the material for the construction of the building were furnished by the county. Work was commenced September 1, 1814. The contractor was Killion Creek—that is, he laid the walls—and Samuel Hogue built the roof of this building and furnished timber for the window frames, etc., while John Decker had the contract for all inside finishing work. The painting was done by the brush of Samuel Boicourt. This structure stood and did good service for the new county for a quarter of a century, or until 1841, when it was thought wise to provide better quarters for the various county officials and the courts.

#### SECOND COURT HOUSE.

The county authorities appointed Joseph Devin, Samuel Hall and Willis Howe commissioners (Devin resigned and Jonathan Young was put in his stead) and directed them to procure plans and specifications. The final plans were those furnished by Edward Coleman. The contract for erecting the building was awarded to Alfred Poland. The structure was built of brick and was completed in 1843, at a cost to the taxpayers of about nine thousand dollars. It was a well built court house, about square in form, and served the county until the present fine court house was erected in 1883. Up to the razing of the second building, the public square contained many shade trees, some of which were exceedingly large and beautiful. These trees were all removed by the grading of the yard except one small maple, which still remains.



## THE THIRD AND PRESENT COURT HOUSE.

The corner stone of the present court house was laid June 17, 1884, in the presence of several thousand people and with appropriate Masonic ceremonies, under charge of the various lodges of the county. The building is an imposing red brick, stone-trimmed structure, of modern style architecture. It is a large, two-story building, over a full ceiling basement, the rooms of which are used by the county for various lesser county offices and for store room purposes. The floors of the superstructure—second and third floors from the ground—are used for the main county offices and the large, well-planned court room and jurors' rooms. It is heated and lighted after strictly modern methods. Joseph Miller, of Washington, Indiana, was the contracting builder, and for this work he received the sum of one hundred and eighty-eight thousand six hundred and sixty-one dollars. This, however, did not include the fixtures and furnishings. While this building has stood for almost a third of a century, it seems about as good as when first occupied. It really stands as a monument to the good sense and wisdom of the men who planned it and the taxpayers who voted for its erection. The commissioners who contracted for this court house and served during its construction were Sylvester Benson, John S. Mead and Josiah Kightley. Of this board, only one, Sylvester Benson, is living (1914) at an advanced age.

The first county officials to occupy the new court house were John W. Johnson, auditor; John Sipp, treasurer; Henry P. Chambers, sheriff; James S. Epperson, clerk; Solomon Vannada, recorder, all of whom are dead (1914), except Solomon Vannada. Judge Oscar M. Wellborn held the first court.

## JAIL HISTORY.

Gibson county, like all other counties in the Union, has had need of a jail at different times, in order to safely house those outlaws and law violators who have seen fit to be disobedient and have been held for trial or punished by serving time. In Gibson county there have been three different jails where prisoners have been kept. The first one was ordered built by the court in February, 1814, and it was then styled the gaol. Its plans and specifications contained the following items: The walls to be eighteen feet square of well-seasoned timber; the lower story seven feet between the floors; the timber of the walls to be twelve inches square, neatly dove-tailed down so that each log may touch the other. There was an inside wall of good timber

built in the same manner as the outer wall, as high as the first story; a space of ten inches was left between the walls, which was filled with hewn timbers nine by twelve inches square, set on end, touching each other; the outer wall extended seven feet high above the upper floor of the lower story; there were three floors of hewn timbers ten inches square, one below, one above and one between the upper and lower story. The lower floor was confined down by the inside wall of the lower room or dungeon. The second floor was held down by the outer wall. There was one small window and two grates in the lower story or dungeon. The requirements of the court called for an outside door to the upper or debtor's room, and required the shutters to be very strong and well hung with iron bars. From the debtor's room there was a trap door to go down to the dungeon, with strong bolts and locks to confine it down. In the debtor's room there was a division for the separation of the sexes, made of hewed timbers, six by ten inches square, with a good door and shutter through the wall, with one small window with gates to each room. The jail was covered with a roof of clapboards and yellow poplar shingles. This jail was erected by Samuel Hogue under a contract with the county. It served until 1833, when it was considered no longer a proper, safe building, as so adjudged by the grand jury, who reported it as insufficient and not safe for the keeping of prisoners. The board then ordered that Robert Stockwell, John Arbuthnot, John I. Neely, Jonathan Gulick, Isaac Montgomery, Charles Jones and Joshua Duncan be requested to meet the second Tuesday of October, and consult and present a plan for a jail. Also that Robert Stormont and Joseph Hartin be the contractors to build a jail on a lot which had been purchased for sixty dollars. That jail—the second in Gibson county—was completed in the spring of 1835, when the old jail was sold at auction and the proceeds used for making a well at the new jail. This building served Gibson county many years and until the present well-constructed red brick structure was built. While the present jail is not thoroughly up-to-date in all of its appointments, yet it is comparatively safe and sanitary. The jailor's residence is built in connection with the jail. This building is situated on the corner of Emerson and Main streets.

In recent years there have been many improvements made on the public square, including the erection of the magnificent granite monument erected by the people of Gibson county in memory of the soldiery of the Civil war, of which an extended account is given elsewhere in this volume; also the more recent series of electroliers—an electric lighting system of clusters of brilliant lights within frosted glass globes, attached to concrete standards that line the four sides of the public square.

## CARE OF THE POOR.

The care given to the unfortunate poor in any community is always an index to the character of the people in that community. From the earliest times in Gibson county such people were usually well cared for—at least the provisions of the laws of the state were carried out. It is true that in the early years of the county's history there was not that finer feeling for such unfortunates as there has been in more recent years, when a higher state of civilization and a keener Christian understanding has come to obtain in the minds of the common people and the taxpayers in general.

The first mention made of overseers of the poor in the county records bears the date of 1913, as soon as the county was fairly organized. At the May term of court that year the following persons were appointed as overseers: Jacob Pea and James Branton in Madison township, Andrew Cunningham and William Price in White River township, William Latham and Thomas Potter in Patoka township, Robert McGary and Thomas Sharp in Montgomery township, Thomas Alman and Samuel James in Black River township.

On June 21, 1815, the court made the following appointments of overseers of the poor: Jacob Pea and Henry Brenton in Madison township, Robert Mosley and Armstead Bennett in White River township, William Harrington and Daniel Putnam in Patoka township, Thomas Sharp and Reuben Alsop in Montgomery township, John Waller and John Cox in Black River township.

Many years later the commissioners purchased a small tract of land about three miles northwest of Princeton and there established a poor house, where paupers were cared for until the purchase of the present farm in what is now Union township. This farm was bought by the county from Thadeus Keimer, in May, 1890, for the sum of eleven thousand five hundred dollars, and consists of two hundred and eight acres, of not extra quality of land. It is situated on the northeast quarter of section 33, and the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of the same section, in township 2, range 10 west. This real estate had upon it, when the county purchased it, an old brick farm house which has been rebuilt and somewhat added to and still serves as a county asylum. A new barn has also been erected at a cost of seven hundred dollars and many more improvements made. The farm, however, does not nearly support the paupers of the county. The soil is poor and the expenses are great. The recent report of the superintendent, who gets five

hundred dollars per year salary and his keeping, shows that there are only nineteen inmates at the place now. There are two cooks employed and one hired man for general utility work most of the time in late years. Cows, sheep and hogs are raised and kept for the use of the institution. Many citizens believe that the poor of Gibson county should, in these times, be provided for at less expense by simply hiring them boarded, counting the cost of operating the present farm and the invested money in the land.

## PRESENT NET VALUATION OF TAXABLES.

Columbia township -----	\$ 704,205
Patoka township -----	2,381,945
White River township -----	1,299,720
Washington township -----	813,465
Montgomery township -----	2,768,495
Johnson township -----	1,493,435
Wabash township -----	589,015
Barton township -----	870,085
Center township -----	784,840
Union township -----	1,455,625
City of Princeton -----	3,011,030
Town of Owensville -----	528,595
Town of Patoka -----	194,410
Town of Fort Branch -----	465,525
Town of Hazelton -----	241,315
Town of Francisco -----	126,030
Town of Oakland City -----	713,255
Total -----	\$18,480,990

## FINANCIAL STANDING.

According to the books of the county auditor for the years 1912-13, there was a balance on hand in the treasury on January 1, 1912, of \$240,245.89. Total receipts for 1912, \$569,136.75; total disbursements for 1912, \$641,698.10; balance on hand January 1, 1913, \$171,684.54.

## CHAPTER VI.

### POLITICAL HISTORY.

From the county records it is learned that the following have served Gibson county in official capacities since the organization to the present time, 1914:

#### PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION RESULTS.

Beginning with the election of 1848, the following table exhibits the result of the different presidential elections in Gibson county, until the election of Woodrow Wilson in 1912:

In 1848—Zachary Taylor, Native American, 860; Lewis Cass, Democrat, 802.

In 1852—Franklin Pierce, Democrat, 1,127; Winfield Scott, Whig, 942; John P. Hale, Free Soil, 20.

In 1856—James Buchanan, Democrat, 1,286; Millard Fillmore, Whig, 766; John C. Fremont, Republican, 365.

In 1860—Abraham Lincoln, Republican, 1,295; Stephen A. Douglas, Democrat, 1,565; John C. Breckinridge, Democrat, 29; John Bell, Constitutional Union Convention, 112.

In 1864—Abraham Lincoln, Republican, 1,288; George B. McClellan, Democrat, 1,516.

In 1868, when U. S. Grant was elected President, there were no permanent records made of the result in Gibson county.

In 1872—U. S. Grant, Republican, received a majority over Horace Greeley, Liberal, in Gibson county.

In 1876—Samuel J. Tilden, Democrat, 2,317; Rutherford B. Hayes, Republican, 2,274.

In 1880—James A. Garfield, Republican, 2,662; Winfield S. Hancock, Democrat, 2,477.

In 1884—James G. Blaine, Republican, 2,774; Grover Cleveland, Democrat, 2,649; Benjamin F. Butler, Greenback National, 24; John P. St. John, National Prohibition, 48.

In 1888—Benjamin Harrison, Republican, 2,953; Grover Cleveland, Democrat, 2,721; Clinton B. Fisk, Prohibition, 238.

In 1892—Benjamin Harrison, Republican, 2,738; Grover Cleveland, Democrat, 2,460; James B. Weaver, National People's Convention, 598; John Bidwell, Prohibition, 243.

In 1896—William J. Bryan, Democrat, 3,276; William McKinley, Republican, 3,471; William J. Bryan, People's, 346; John M. Palmer, National Democrat, 11.

In 1900—William J. Bryan, Democrat, 3,509; William McKinley, Republican, 3,648; John G. Woolley, Prohibition, 244; Bryan, People's, 17; Eugene V. Debs, Socialist Democrat, 4.

In 1904—Alton B. Parker, Democrat, 3,221; Silas C. Swallow, Prohibition, 331; Theodore Roosevelt, Republican, 3,871; Eugene V. Debs, Socialist Democrat, 91; Thomas E. Watson, People's, 29; Charles H. Corregan, Socialist Labor, 7.

In 1908—William Jennings Bryan, Democrat, 3,626; William H. Taft, Republican, 3,753; Silas C. Swallow, Prohibition, 241; E. V. Debs, Socialist, 5; Independent ticket, 2.

In 1912—Woodrow Wilson, Democrat, 3,250; William H. Taft, Republican, 2,260; Eugene W. Chafin, Prohibition, 226; Theodore Roosevelt, Progressive, 1,270; E. V. Debs, Socialist, 295; Arthur Reiner, Socialist Labor, 7.

#### STATE SENATORS REPRESENTING THE COUNTY.

The first state senator from the district in which Gibson county formed a part was William Prince. The legislative session was held at the old state capital, Corydon, commencing November 4, 1816. The second session was held at the same place, commencing December 2, 1818, when Isaac Montgomery represented this district. In 1821, the next session, also at Corydon, this county was represented by Senator Richard Daniel. The capital was then changed to Indianapolis, and the first Legislature convened in that city on December 5, 1825, and Mr. Montgomery was still representing this district, serving from 1825 to 1829. Then came the following state senators: David Robb, 1829-33; Elisha Embree, 1833-35; Thomas E. Stewart, 1835-38; John Hargrove, 1838-41; Smith Miller, 1841-44; Benjamin R. Edmundson, 1844-47; Smith Miller, 1847-50; Benjamin T. Goodman, 1850-55; William Hawthorne, 1855-57; John Hargrove, 1857-61; Thomas Shoulders, 1862-65; James Barker, 1865-67; Thomas C. Jaques, 1867-71; Magnes T. Cochrane, 1871-75; Jasper Davidson, 1875-79; Gustavus V. Menzies, 1879-83; James E. McCullough, 1883-87; V. P. Bozeman, 1887-91; Albert G. Holcomb, 1891-

95; V. P. Bozeman, 1895; W. E. Stilwell, 1899; V. P. Bozeman, 1903; William Gonnerman, 1907; George W. Curtis, 1911.

## REPRESENTATIVES.

Edward Hogan and John Johnson, 1816; James Cambell and Richard Daniel, 1817-18; Richard Daniel and John Johnson, 1818; David Robb, 1820-22; John Gibson, 1823; David Robb and Robert M. Evans, 1826-27; Walter Wilson, 1827; David Robb, 1828; Samuel Hall, 1829-30; John Hargrove, 1831-35; Smith Miller, 1835-38; James Devin, 1838; Smith Miller, 1839; Isaac Montgomery, 1840; Joseph Devin, 1841; John Hargrove, 1842; William Montgomery, 1843-44; Samuel Hall, 1845; Samuel Miller, 1846; George W. Thompson, 1847; James W. Cockrum, 1848; Silas M. Holcomb, 1849; George B. Graff, 1850; James W. Cockrum, 1851; Alexander C. Donald, 1853; John Hargrove, 1855; Caleb Trippett, 1857; Isaac M. Woods, 1858-61; Silas M. Holcomb, 1861-63; John Hargrove, 1865; Jacob F. Bird, 1867; Austin Huston, 1869; William J. McGowan, 1871; Clarence A. Buskirk, 1873-75; Jacob Montgomery, 1875; Francis W. Hauss, 1877; Jasper Davidson, 1879; George C. Mason, 1881; William R. Genung, 1883; A. P. Twineham, 1885; Jesse M. Montgomery, 1887; M. W. Fields, 1889; Preston A. Bryant, 1891-93; W. D. Robinson, 1895; D. D. Hart, 1897; Hugh D. McGary, 1898; W. F. Parrett, 1900; W. F. Parrett, 1902; H. E. Agar, 1904; Luther Benson, 1906; Charles F. Stevens, 1908; Charles F. Stevens, 1910; John A. Rheuff, 1912.

## CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATES.

In the constitutional convention of 1816 Gibson county was represented by Alexander Devin, James Smith, Frederick Rapp and David Robb. In the constitutional convention of 1852 the delegate from this county was Smith Miller.

## COUNTY COLLECTORS.

Between 1820 and 1841 there was a county collector of taxes and the following served in Gibson county: Charles Harrington, Robert Milburn, John R. Montgomery, James Devin, Nicholas J. Hargrove, James Devin, John Ayers, James Skelton, John Sullivan, Joseph J. Kirkman, Roland B. Richards, William Sharp, William Phillips, Samuel A. Stewart, Thomas I. Montgomery.

## COUNTY RECORDERS.

Robert M. Evans, John I. Neely, John R. Montgomery, John Hargrove, John McCoy, T. B. Montgomery (died in office), J. L. Craig (appointed to fill vacancy), James H. Fentriss, Thomas J. Robb, James M. Keyes, Solomon Van Nada, W. R. Steele, T. A. Walters, W. D. Zimmerman, L. L. Bell, Michael M. Kennedy.

## COUNTY CLERKS.

Robert M. Evans, John I. Neely, J. R. Montgomery, John Hargrove, Andrew Lewis, S. M. Barton (resigned), O. M. Welborn (appointed for vacancy), Richard M. J. Miller, Dr. W. P. Welborn, James S. Epperson, William H. Coleman, Samuel A. Stewart, T. J. Mason, Rollin Maxam.

## COUNTY TREASURERS.

James W. Jones, William Prince, William Harrington, James W. Hogue, David T. King, Willis Howe, James Boswell, M. G. C. Hargrove, William Reavis, S. P. Welborn, Logan McCrary, Caleb Trippett, Charles C. Whiting, Emil Sasse, William Simpson, John Sipp, William N. Tichnor, George W. Shull, John A. West, R. F. McConnell, H. C. Redman; William S. Ennis, F. S. D. Knowles (died in office), Foreman Knowles, his son, appointed to fill vacancy and afterward elected; Edgar Mauck, Milton Cushman.

## COUNTY AUDITORS.

This county office was not created until 1841. John Ames, the first to hold such office, resigned September 2, 1843, and Alfred Poland was appointed to serve out the unexpired term. Then followed William Kurtz, John E. Phillips, Willis S. Hargrove, John C. Holcomb, William J. Casey (died in office), Alexander J. Montgomery (appointed to vacancy), John W. Johnson, L. W. McDonald, Samuel R. Adams, H. R. Embree, William T. Roberts.

## SHERIFFS.

James Crow, Henry Hopkins, Thomas Stone, James Devin, James Stone, Joseph Neeley, N. J. Hargrove, J. J. Kirkman, Joseph E. Woods, J. J. Kirkman, Samuel H. Shannon, J. J. Kirkman, August F. Boswell, Henry Ayers, J. G. Vail, James Ragsdale, J. G. Vail, John Lockhart, Francis W. Hauss, J.



G. Vail, W. L. Hargrove, H. P. Chambers, Hugh D. McGary, Monroe Key, Wyatt Gentry, John M. Tribble, G. W. Murphy, Thomas Beloat, Frank Whiting, George Skelton, Joseph W. Barton.

#### COUNTY SURVEYORS.

David Robb, Robert M. Evans, Purnel Fisher, James Smith, Alexander H. Polk, W. T. Stillwell, Alfred Poland, Alexander H. Polk, Charles A. Slayback, D. S. W. Miller, Alexander H. Polk, G. M. Emmerson, E. E. Watts, G. M. Emmerson, H. H. Neikamp, John L. Morris, H. C. Morrison.

#### ASSESSORS AND APPRAISERS.

This combined office was in existence until after the Civil war and was held by the following persons: James Russell, by appointment in 1813, followed by Henry Hopkins, James Ramsey, Charles Harrington, James Evans, Walter Wilson, Thomas B. Embree, Walter Wilson, William Jerauld, Alexander L. Evans, William De Priest, John Hargrove, Joseph Neely, Alexander L. Evans, John Ayers, James F. Wasson, Jonathan Latham, D. Jerauld, Jonathan Latham, Hugh Parkinson, James Boswell, William Jerauld, William De Priest, Jesse Weatherby, Silas M. Holcomb, Bluford H. Criswell, George Beloat and Thomas Emerson.

#### COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

The board of county commissioners have had in charge the affairs relating to the general and specific government of the county. As a rule they have been men of good judgment and business sagacity, and the affairs have usually been conducted in a businesslike manner. Following are the names of the men who have served on these boards since 1845. Prior to that the records are lost: A. D. Foster, James Hudleson and John Simpson, 1845; James Hudleson, John Simpson and M. G. C. Hargrove, 1847; John Simpson, M. G. C. Hargrove and John Ennes, 1848; John Simpson, John Ennes and David Barker, 1850; John Simpson, David Barker and Stewart Cunningham, 1852; John Simpson, Stewart Cunningham and A. D. Foster, 1854; Stewart Cunningham, A. D. Foster and John M. Boren, 1855; December term, 1855, A. D. Foster, David Robb and James Hudleson; A. D. Foster, James Hudleson and W. M. Land, 1856; David Robb, James Hudleson and Joseph Yeager, 1857; Joseph Yeager, James Hudleson and Joseph Devin, 1856;

James Hudleson, Henry Gambrel and Joseph Devin, 1861; Henry Gambrel, James Hudleson and G. Vickers, 1862; G. Vickers, Henry Gambrel and Stewart Cunningham, 1864; G. Vickers, Stewart Cunningham and H. G. Mauck, 1865; Stewart Cunningham, William McReynolds and W. R. McClary, 1866; A. J. Cunningham, William R. McClary and Logan McClary, 1867; W. R. McClary, A. J. Cunningham and John N. Mangrum, 1871; A. J. Cunningham, John N. Mangrum and George W. Finch, 1872; John N. Mangrum, George W. Finch and Moses K. Robb, 1873; John N. Mangrum, Moses K. Robb and Calvin Drysdale, 1874; Moses K. Robb, Calvin Drysdale and Sylvester Benson, 1876; Moses K. Robb, Sylvester Benson and William Cooper, 1877; Sylvester Benson, William Cooper and A. J. Shoultz, 1879; Sylvester Benson, A. J. Shoultz and John S. Mead, 1881; Sylvester Benson, John S. Mead and Josiah Kightly, 1882; Josiah Kightly, S. Benson, 1884; Z. M. Weed, John Mangrum, 1886; William McRoberts, John Mangrum, 1888; W. L. McRoberts, Z. M. Weed, 1890; Z. M. Weed, T. H. Emmerson, 1892; J. W. Phillips, T. H. Emmerson, 1894; Joseph Moore, S. R. Davis, 1896; E. C. Farmer, Phillip Martin, 1898; J. W. Phillips, P. Martin, 1900; J. W. Phillips, George W. Newman, 1902; G. W. Newman, John P. Moore, 1904; J. P. Youcham, John P. Moore, 1906; Joseph Yochum, G. Frohbiter, 1908; G. C. Frohbiter, George A. Knowles, 1910; R. D. Thompson, G. A. Knowles, 1912.

#### COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS.

The office of county superintendent of schools was created by the Legislature in 1872, and the holder of this position takes the places formerly held by the school examiners. He is elected every four years by the various township trustees. The following have served in Gibson county in such capacity: William T. Stilwell, Henry A. Yeager, W. D. Robinson, T. W. Cullen, Henry Neikamp, John T. Ballard, John F. Fulling, and the present superintendent, Wilbur Fisher.

## CHAPTER VII.

### RAILROADS AND TRANSPORTATION.

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#### THE WABASH AND ERIE CANAL.

By Col. W. M. Cockrum.

The people of our state, learning that the states of New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio were prosecuting internal improvements successfully, determined to try their hands at improving their own state, and in the early thirties went wild in trying to see how many expensive canals, railroads and plank roads they could locate and put under way of construction. Had the managers of our state done as did New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio, that is, to push one or two of these projects along and complete it before starting others, they would also have succeeded. This was too slow for our Hoosiers, however, so they must have ten or a dozen costly improvements going at the same time. Many of these projected improvements were needed, and if they had been finished, would have been of great service to our people.

The Wabash and Erie canal was much the greatest of all of these internal improvements.

The act of Congress making the first land grants for the construction of the canal was passed in 1827. The act of our state Legislature authorizing the commencement of the work was passed at the session of 1830-31. A second grant of lands for the continuation of the canal from the mouth of the Tippecanoe river to Terre Haute was passed by Congress in 1831. A third grant of half of the unsold lands in the Vincennes land district for the continuation of the canal from Terre Haute to the Ohio river at Evansville was made by Congress in 1845. The work on the canal was begun at Fort Wayne in 1832, and finished from Toledo, Ohio, to Lafayette in 1841, and to Terre Haute in 1849, and to Evansville in 1852.

During the several years that so much work was in progress in Indiana, wages were high, and all kinds of produce, forage and provisions were bringing good prices, and the vast amount of money that was paid out for labor and produce apparently made good times in all parts of the country where

this work was being done. But this was a fictitious appearance, for the people had run into extravagance, and engaged in too much speculation, for which promissory notes were given. The retail merchants contracted debts with the wholesale merchants, and had sold quantities of goods to their customers, who were wholly dependent on these works for money with which to pay for their purchases. The crash came in the year 1837, and there was a general suspension of every sort of business. The state financial ruin was very great, and thousands of men who were on the road to fortune could do nothing but stand idly by and see their fond hopes disappear. So wide was this disaster in the country bordering the underfakings of the state, that it was very distressing.

In 1838 there were so many more individuals involved in the ruin that it was very embarrassing to all of the people. At the meeting of the Legislature in 1838, Governor Wallace in his message said: "Never before—I speak advisedly—never before have you witnessed a period in our local history which more urgently calls for the exercising of all the soundest and best attributes of grave and patriotic legislation than the present."

In 1839 work was suspended on most of the state improvements and the contracts surrendered.

It became evident that the state could not finish all of these works. The Legislature of 1841 passed a law authorizing any private company to take charge of and complete any of the works except the Wabash and Erie canal. It was thought that by the aid of the government the state could finish the canal in the next few years. The state made several attempts in this direction without success. Everything lay quiet until 1846, when Charles Butler, who represented the bondholders, offered to take the state's interest in the canal for one half of the debt and for the lands granted for its construction, and finish it, if the state would issue new certificates for the other half and pay interest at four per cent. per annum, the state reserving the right of redemption. The canal under this management was finished to Evansville in 1852. The length of the canal in Indiana was three hundred and ninety-five miles, and in Ohio eighty-four miles, making its entire length four hundred and fifty-nine miles. This enormous work, which cost so many millions of dollars, only lasted a few years, owing to the fact that it was paralleled the entire length by railroads. However, the canal caused a large emigration to the section of country through which it passed.

The canal crossed the Patoka river into Gibson county on an aqueduct at the old town of Dengola, and followed the lowlands of the Patoka river

to Francisco, thence southwest through the highlands of the Pigeon Summit that divides the watershed between the Patoka river and the Pigeon creek country.

At Port Gibson, a town located on the canal in Gibson county, a reservoir was located, which flooded as much as two thousand acres from five to twenty feet deep. This was the greatest fishing resort that was ever in Gibson county, as it was well stocked with fine lake fish. After the canal was abandoned the water was let out of the reservoir, and today some of the best farms in Gibson county are situated on these famous fishing grounds. The canal followed the lowlands of Pigeon creek until it passed into Warrick county, and thence to Evansville.

From Fort Wayne the canal followed the water levels of the Wabash and tributaries. The fall was so great in many places that locks had to be put in, so that a new water level could be secured. The locks were made of a length sufficient for the largest boats and about eighteen feet wide, made of heavy hewn timber. Very heavy double gates were made on each level.

Shippers along the canal had the lowest shipping rates that have ever been in this section. In the late fifties my brother, James M. Cockrum, and I were in the pork packing and tobacco business and had our packing and shipping house at Dongola on the canal. Looking over one of our old shipping books, I find that we shipped from Dongola to Evansville tierces of lard, two hundred and fifty pounds, for ten cents each, barrels of pork for eight and a third cents each, and hogsheads of tobacco, sixteen to eighteen hundred pounds, for fifty cents each.

The canal boats were nearly all heavy freighters, but there were two fine passenger boats which ran between Evansville and Terre Haute, named the "Prairie Queen" and the "Pride of the Wabash." These boats were finely finished and would carry about thirty-five passengers in their sleeping apartments, and that many more who furnished their own sleeping outfit. These passenger boats aimed to make one hundred miles each twenty-four hours, with four shifts of horses.

The same condition of things did not exist as when the state was supplying the funds to carry on her many improvements. The money to build the canal from Terre Haute to Evansville came from the English bondholders. The works supplied employment for thousands of men and many hundreds of teams, and good wages were paid. This vast amount of help made a great demand for food stuffs, and good times was the result in all the country near these works. There are thousands of farms that were paid for with funds obtained for labor and supplies on these works.

In connection with the history of the Wabash and Erie canal, I here give several incidents that happened during its construction through Gibson county.

The contractors for the canal, as a class, were honorable men. In most cases they had one section of the work, and these sections, as a rule, were a mile long. Where the work was very heavy the sections were much shorter, in order that the work might be completed about the same time. The embankments were made by hauling the dirt in one-horse carts. The usual outfit for a crew of men, when the haul was not over two hundred yards, was four carts and four men to shovel the dirt into them. The work was so timed that the loaded cart was ready to pull out as soon as an empty one was ready to go to be loaded. Over forty men and carts there was a boss. The shovelers were nearly all Irishmen; there were very few Americans. Of the latter, most of them got out timbers for the culverts and bridges.

About a half gill of raw whiskey was given the men four times a day. Whiskey at that time was as free from law restrictions as water and everyone that wanted a "doggerly," as they were called, could have it by building a little log shanty and purchasing a barrel of whiskey at twenty-five cents a gallon. These lax laws resulted in many little drinking dens along the canal.

Stewart and Rockefeller had the section at Dongola and on both sides of the Patoka river, also the building of the aqueduct across the river. The William H. Stewart of the firm mentioned was the father of Dr. William H. Stewart, of Oakland City, Indiana. The above mentioned works were very busy ones, and many men were engaged on them. As soon as they got well under way, a man named Bev Willis built a small ten-by-fifteen shanty boat on the Patoka river. It was situated near where the present iron bridge spans the river at Dongola. Willis was from a good family, but was a wild fellow and in a short time had a den full of drunken sots. There was little attention paid to him until some of Stewart's best men begun to neglect their work. Then Stewart went to see him, and gave him one week to get away with his boat and whiskey. Bev sold his whiskey to another doggerly man some miles farther west on the works, tore his boat to pieces and went to California.

Soon after this a man named Spradley, from Warrick county, came to Dongola, hunting a place where he could build a whiskey shanty. He boastingly said that he would teach the canalers that they would have to get busy before they drove him away. He had two barrels of whiskey hauled to this place where he built his doggerly, and for a couple of days dispensed



SHIPPING MELONS—A BUSY TIME AT THE RAILROAD STATION.





liquor without interruption. Then Stewart took two or three of his bosses, with picks, and went to see the brave Warrick county man. When the latter saw them coming he made it convenient to get away. Stewart and his men broke open the barrels and poured the whiskey on the ground. This ended the liquor traffic at Dongola.

#### THE KNOW-NOTHINGS.

This was about the time that the first of the Know-Nothings was heard of in this section. Consequently there was not the best of feeling existing between the Irish and the native Americans. Many combats resulted. The Irish would get on a drinking spree and raise a fuss with the first American they could find, calling him a "know-nothing," and if he resented the insult, ten or fifteen of the drunken brutes would attack him.

In 1852 Columbia township was much larger than now. The west line was one mile west of Francisco. There was but one precinct for the whole township, and that was located on the farm owned by the late Capt. S. G. Barrett, now owned by the late James M. Steel's heirs. About noon on the election day in 1852 a man was seen running along the road from the west, and following him were a score of men. When the lone man had come within a hundred yards of the crowd that was at the polls, he stopped and faced his pursuers. Two who were in the lead reached him, when he laid them both in the road with a club which he carried. Ed Mosley was at the election. He saw there was a host against one and, jumping out of his wagon, pulling off his coat as he ran, he joined the man who was defending himself so gallantly. He went into the Irish and knocked them right and left, soon putting the whole gang to flight. The lone man proved to be young Swallow, the father of Willis Swallow, of Oakland City. The Irish had come onto him near Francisco as he was coming to the election and began to abuse him, calling him a Know-Nothing. He did not take much of their abuse until he floored three or four of them. A crowd of them immediately set upon him and he had to run for his life. He had a good sized club and as the foremost of his pursuers would get close to him, he would stop and knock one or two of them down. In this way he had more than half of them with sore heads and bloody noses.

Ragon's works were northwest of Oakland City about three miles, and included the section which crossed Keg creek and its bottoms. This was one of the heaviest works on the line. The fill across the bottoms was one hun-

dred feet wide and was from fifteen to eighteen feet to the bottom of the canal. Ten on one side the berm bank and on the other the towpath were made; these banks were six feet higher than the bottom of the canal. On these heavy works there was a large number of men, carts, and teams at work for nearly three years. At that time there were many ox teams used. They had a very large plow on these works which the writer has seen drawn by eight yoke of heavy oxen. Shanties for the people and rough stables for the horses and oxen were scattered so thickly that it looked like a string town for many miles along the canal. One living today cannot realize the immense amount of work required to build the canal. It required the removal of more dirt than it would to build a dozen railroads. There were a hundred boarding shanties, large and small, from what was known as the Patoka Summit, a mile or two above Hosmer, Pike county, to the Pigeon Summit, about two miles below Francisco, Gibson county. Some of these shanties were eighty feet long and would have bunks for as many as fifty boarders. Smaller houses were constructed to accommodate four and six boarders. Nearly all of these people who lived near the works were Irish. They had no trouble getting all the whiskey they required, and such carrying on as they had has never been seen before or since in this part of Indiana.

There was a large blacksmith shop near the site of the present residence of Samuel Aydelott. A. J. Malone, the father of Rice Malone, lived some miles southwest of that shop, but had come in to have a single-tree mended. He was starting home when he was attacked by a band of drunken Irishmen. Malone used his single-tree for a club and knocked seventeen of them down with it. Finally one fellow slipped up behind and knocked Malone down with a pick handle. The drunken brutes then beat him until they thought he was dead. Some of his friends found him and took him to his home, where he lay for many weeks. When he came to his right mind, his friends obtained a description of the men who had attacked him, several of whom Malone knew by name. A posse of twenty men went with their guns to the boarding shanties and compelled the men to pass out of the door between double lines of men who were trying to find the guilty ones. However, some one had given a tip and, with the exception of three, all who had been in the cowardly scrap had fled. These three were hurt so badly that they could not get away. One of them was killed afterwards by John Loyd for bragging of how he beat the American. The other two disappeared mysteriously afterward, and it is believed they were captured and disposed of by Americans.

The people living along and working on the canal had very little regard for sanitary rules and in most cases lived as filthy lives as animals. This subjected them to many diseases. The cholera raged up and down the line one whole summer and until late in the fall, and I doubt if less than one thousand people died on the works between Patoka and Pigeon Summits. The stricken would die within three or four hours. On the old Potter farm now owned by Sylvester Cantrell, three miles northwest of Oakland City, so many people were sick and dead that the canal people hired a cooper named Whitelock from Francisco to make boxes for coffins. After he had nailed up his sixtieth box, he said, "I have nailed the cholera up, and no more will die." He was dead himself within two hours afterward, and nailed up in one of his own boxes. There was a general stampede from the works. Cold weather came, and work was resumed. There were three dead Irishmen found in a blacksmith shop which stood on the ground occupied by the residence of A. I. Upton, two miles north of Oakland City.

Patrick Manning had the heavy works just west of Dongola, where the canal crosses the Hurricane creek. Mr. Manning was a just man, and had a family of grown-up boys and girls. Young Pat Manning was a strong, resolute fellow of twenty years of age. On Christmas morning in 1852 he came to our house for a load of hay, and prevailed upon my father to let me go home with him, as they were to have a Christmas dinner that day. After we reached his home I assisted him in unloading the hay. We were near a small shanty occupied by an Irishman and his wife. These two were drinking stews, and soon began to quarrel. In a few moments the door flew open and the woman came out of the shanty and fell on the frozen ground as if shot from a catapult. Young Manning jumped from the wagon and ran up to where the man was standing, and knocked him down. Whereupon the woman picked up a shovel and struck Manning on the side of the head, with the warning, "Again, Mr. Manning, you will learn to keep out of our little pleasantries." Pat rubbed his head and said he would not aid her again if the husband killed her.

On Manning's works, his trusted man and bookkeeper went under the name of Pat McTurbon. This man had been with Manning for two years on works farther north before coming down to Gibson county. McTurbon was a civil engineer and could take an estimate of the work done and to be done. Mr. Ball, the chief engineer of the canal, said that McTurbon was so much more competent than any other man on the works that he offered him a new position under himself, with a good salary. McTurbon refused, how-

ever, saying that Mr. Manning was a good man and that he was content to remain with him until the works were completed.

A small, spare man came to the works and applied for a job, saying that he was not very strong, but could do light work as well as anyone. There was a large number of men on the works. The jigger boss had become such a drunkard that Mr. Manning proposed to the new man that he might have the place, which was accepted, and he went to work very industriously. Soon another man applied for work, and who claimed to be from Canada. He went to work as a shoveler. These men had been there several weeks, when one morning neither of them appeared, and McTurbon was also missing. His shanty was locked on the outside with a padlock, just as he always left it when he went to work or to his meals. There was a peculiar noise in the shanty, as if someone were breathing very hard. Manning had the staple drawn and on the floor lay the jigger boss and the Canadian, with a straight-jacket securely laced around each of them, and their legs tied to a heavy stake which was driven into the ground to make a water shelf on. In each of their mouths was a regular burglar's gag. McTurbon was gone, with his fine set of instruments and his best clothing. He left a note on top of his time book, addressed to Manning, and read as follows:

"My dear Mr. Manning:

"Under circumstances over which I have no control, I am compelled to leave your service, which I sincerely regret. Your accounts and time are correct up to yesterday evening. You will, on the floor of my domicile, find two guests of mine that I part from with satisfaction.

"Yours sincerely,

"Pat McTurbon."

After the two imprisoned men had regained consciousness, which they did not do for several hours, they related their story. They were detectives from the Scotland Yards, London, and had been hunting all over the country for the last six years to find McTurbon, whose right name was John Cecil. He had robbed a wealthy English nobleman of more than five hundred thousand dollars worth of jewelry, nearly all in diamonds. These detectives had followed the line of public works all over England and America, for they knew that he was a finished engineer and thought that he would go to work at his profession. The two detectives were not certain that McTurbon was the man, as he had so changed himself, but they believed that he was, and they determined to try to get him into his room when he was asleep, as he

never left it only when he went to his meals or made estimates for Manning, and then the door was always locked. The shanty which McTurbon occupied was built on the slope of a hill a short distance west of Hurricane creek, on land now owned by Charles Shurig, of Oakland City. Under the north side of the shanty was a large log, so as to make the floor level. This made quite an opening under the floor near the log. The detective discovered that wide planks had been used for flooring, and that by loosening one of them they could easily get inside. This they succeeded in doing while McTurbon was at supper. The night they attempted to make a search for the diamonds was a very dark one. McTurbon had found that plank was loosened. He accordingly prepared himself and was on watch for them. About midnight one of the detectives slipped under the floor cautiously and pushed the loosened plank to his partner. They soon had a hole large enough for a man to pass through. The jigger boss went first, and upon stepping into the room was knocked senseless with a blow from a sandbag. McTurbon lowered his victim to the floor, and put his head down to the hole and whispered to the other man to come on, which he did, and was treated with the same sandbag blow. These men were seriously hurt and it was ten days before they were able to leave.

#### THE SOUTHERN RAILROAD.

Under the internal improvement craze of the early thirties a project was put on foot to build a railroad from New Albany, Indiana, to Mt. Carmel, Illinois, to connect with the Illinois & St. Louis railroad, then being surveyed. Surveyors were put to work on the New Albany road and the location for the line was made. There was but little work done on this survey in Indiana. On the Illinois division work was begun in 1837, and about twenty miles was graded east and west of Albion, Illinois. The general hard times all over the country caused a suspension of the work, leaving a large amount of debts against the company. Later on, by an act of the Illinois Legislature, the road was sold to the highest bidder and was bought in by General Pickering for a nominal sum. There was nothing done with the road until 1871, when that route was adopted and the graded roadbed was bought back from Pickering. Under the general laws of our state, the New Albany & St. Louis Air Line was organized February 24, 1860. On the 1st of July, 1870, the name was changed to Louisville, New Albany & St. Louis Air Line Railway Company. The survey which was adopted and on which the roadbed was built was near the old survey made in 1837. In a clump of trees

standing in Oakland City, when the new survey was made, the engineers found the bench mark of the old survey not more than fifty feet from where the road now runs. The Illinois division was organized April 14, 1869, by a special act of the Illinois Legislature, under the name of the St. Louis, Mt. Carmel & New Albany Railroad Company. The Indiana and Illinois divisions were consolidated July 24, 1872, under the name of the Louisville, New Albany & St. Louis Railroad Company. Both divisions were subsequently sold under foreclosure proceedings. The Indiana division was reorganized in February, 1877, under the name of the Louisville, New Albany & St. Louis Air Line Railroad Company, and the Illinois division was reorganized in January, 1878, under the name of the St. Louis & Mt. Carmel Railroad Company. In August, 1878, these two companies were again consolidated under the name of the Louisville, New Albany & St. Louis Railroad Company. The road later on consolidated with the Evansville, Rockport & Eastern Railway Company, and changed its name to the Louisville, Evansville & St. Louis Railroad Company. This change of name came about because the railroad company had purchased a line of railroad from Huntingburg, Cannelton, Rockport and Evansville. The consolidated railroad company carried a large bonded debt of more than twenty million dollars, and had defaulted in paying the interest. This resulted in the road being placed in the hands of a receiver, who managed the business for several years. The bondholders of the first mortgage bonds became weary doing without interest or dividend, and brought foreclosure proceedings. The court ordered that the road be sold to the best advantage for the creditors. The property was purchased by a committee of bondholders of the Louisville, Evansville & St. Louis Railway Company. The company was reorganized under the latter name.

About this time a road was built from Lincoln City to Cannelton by a company called the Huntingburg, Tell City & Cannelton Railroad Company. In 1889 new interests acquired both these companies and they were then consolidated with the Illinois & St. Louis Railroad and Coal Company, the Venice & Carondelet Railway Company and the Belleville, Centralia & Eastern Railroad Company, under the name of the Louisville, Evansville & St. Louis Consolidated Railroad Company. In 1894 this road went into the hands of a receiver. In November, 1900, it was sold to the Southern Railway Company.

The Southern Railroad crosses Gibson county from east to west, near the center of the county. There are twenty-five miles of track in the county. The road is in first-class condition, being thoroughly ballasted and laid with

the heaviest steel rails. Six through passenger trains, three each way, pass over the road every day.

#### EVANSVILLE & TERRE HAUTE RAILROAD.

The original charter for the Evansville & Terre Haute Railroad was granted in 1849 to the Evansville & Illinois Railroad Company, aiming to run from Evansville to Olney, Illinois, via Princeton and Mt. Carmel, there to connect with the Ohio & Mississippi railroad. In accordance with the notices published in the Princeton and Evansville papers, the company was organized in the city of Evansville on August 16, 1849. Samuel Hall, of Princeton, was the president. It was through his able management, assisted by other competent men, that the work was pushed forward. Money was not plentiful and was hard to get, but the subscription of Evansville for one hundred thousand dollars and of Vanderburg county for a like amount, with the subscriptions of a number of capitalists, put the company in shape to go forward with the construction work. Many times the company was hard up for bonds to pay the contractors, and the officers and directors would pledge their own private fortunes and raise the money to go on with the work.

The road was completed to Princeton in 1852. I well remember the great gathering of people assembled on the ground where James W. Lewis's residence now stands, watching for the train which was to come at eleven o'clock. I yet remember that the little engine, when it did come, was covered with flags. Mr. Hall, the president of the road, stood on the tender and made a speech. Not one in a hundred of these people had ever seen a railroad engine and I was one of that number.

There were many amusing incidents which happened while the first trains were running on the new line. From Fort Branch comes one of the best. An old lady named Sullivan lived near the railroad track just a little way from Fort Branch. She had quite a lisp in her voice. The trains went by her door every day. She was of inquisitive disposition, and she determined that she would make the train stop so that she could look it over. Preparing herself with a large sheet, she went on to the track and as the train came within sight she waved the sheet, causing the engine to stop. The engineer ran forward to learn the cause of the trouble, and asked Mrs. Sullivan the reason for stopping them. She said, "Oh, nothing, I juth wanted to thee what the cuthed thing looked like."

In 1852 it was decided to build the road to Vincennes, Terre Haute and Crawfordsville. The name of the road was changed to the Evansville &



Crawfordsville Railroad Company. A survey was made to Crawfordsville via Vincennes and Terre Haute, and the road was completed to Rockville, sixteen miles north of Terre Haute. In March, 1877, the name of the road was changed to the Evansville & Terre Haute Railroad. The construction of the Mt. Vernon division from Fort Branch, thirty-seven miles in length, was completed in 1882. Montgomery township gave twenty-five thousand dollars to aid the extension. The Evansville & Terre Haute road, or Chicago & Eastern Illinois, as it has recently become through absorption, runs through a fine farming country. The Mt. Vernon branch runs through territory which cannot be excelled for agricultural purposes; the land along the branch and much of the main line is worth from one hundred to one hundred and fifty dollars per acre. The road has always been a conservative one and well patronized. The Frisco system now owns this valuable property and run their "cannon-ball" trains over it to all parts of the South. The principal stations in Gibson county are Princeton, Owensville, Fort Branch, Hazelton, Patoka and Haubstadt.

#### INDIANAPOLIS & EVANSVILLE RAILROAD.

The Indianapolis & Evansville Railroad was brought into existence in 1854. It was then known as the Evansville, Indianapolis & Cleveland Straight Line Railroad. At the organization of the company in 1854 Hon. Oliver H. Smith, of Indianapolis, was chosen president, and Willard Carpenter, of Evansville, was chosen vice-president and general manager. During the year of 1855-6 nearly all of the grading was done from Evansville to Washington, Indiana, and the roadbed would have been ready for the iron as soon as it could have been gotten. There were no iron or steel rails made in this country at that time, and our people had to depend upon England for the rails. Mr. Carpenter went to England with his pockets full of bonds, expecting no trouble in securing the rails. Being worth more than a half million dollars himself, he could supply any shortage in the bonds.

At that time John Ingle was president of the Evansville & Terre Haute road. Looking on the Straight Line road as a rival, he flooded the iron markets of England with damaging statements of Mr. Carpenter and his road. When the latter arrived in England he found that he could not turn a wheel and he returned home a defeated and disappointed man. The work was all stopped and the roadbed was abandoned for more than twenty-five years. There was a large amount of land subscribed and deeded to the company to help build the road. Many people had done much more than they



should have done; some of them even lost their own farms. There was no attempt to revive the work until 1882, when an adventurer by the name of Hervey, with nothing but a silk hat and a box of cigars, came along and found the old roadbed. He hunted up some of the bondholders, and, with fair promises, got control of the property. He put a mortgage on it, bought the iron, finished the grading and bridging, and completed the road from Evansville to Worthington, Indiana. Since that time a branch from Worthington to Terre Haute has been built. The road now has running schedule from Worthington to Indianapolis over the Indianapolis & Vincennes railroad. The principal stations in Gibson county are Oakland City and Somerville. This railroad now belongs to the Frisco system.

#### BIG FOUR RAILROAD.

Within the last three years there has been a branch line built from the Vincennes & Cairo Big Four railroad that crosses the Wabash river about ten miles south of Mt. Carmel, thence through Wabash and Montgomery township, Gibson county, and on to Evansville. The road has about eight miles of track in this county. There is a new town located on the line, near what is known as Skeleton Bluff, four miles west of Owensville, named Johnson.

#### EVANSVILLE & PRINCETON TRACTION.

The Evansville & Princeton Traction Line is the first of the kind between the two cities. It was finished January 1, 1903. Ed. J. Baldwin, of Princeton, was the prime mover in the promotion, and the late Joseph Heston was president at the time of its completion. The road has since been extended north to Patoka. After running a time, the line was bought by the Murdock-Marshall-Durbin company or syndicate. It is now owned by the Evansville Public Utilities Company.

#### THE SOUTHERN RAILROAD SHOPS.

The Southern railroad shops now existing in the city of Princeton are unquestionably the greatest factor in the commercial development and civic growth of the city. After the fire of 1893 there was question of the town ever building up, but the shops saved the day, and Princeton started upon the upward path.

In the early months of the year 1890 talk was first heard in regard to

the shops. The plan was first made public in the *Clarion* of November 13, 1890, when it was announced that the Louisville, Evansville & St. Louis Consolidated Railroad Company, having then a mileage of over three hundred miles, intended to begin somewhere the building of general main machine and repair shops on a large scale, the building to take place in 1891. Several towns and cities became active bidders for these shops, and for some time the question of location was in doubt. There is no doubt that in the eyes of the railroad officials, including D. J. Mackey, the president and manager of what later became the Chicago & Eastern Illinois and the Southern, Princeton was the favored city. The shops then existed at Huntingburg.

President Mackey forwarded a letter to Harry Kurtz, a citizen of Princeton and railroad promoter, stating that the shops would be built in Princeton for a donation of forty acres of land and right of way for the extension, and two per cent. of aid, which would produce sixty-six thousand dollars.

The proposition submitted by Mr. Mackey to Mr. Kurtz reads as follows:

"Upon condition that the Louisville, Evansville & St. Louis Consolidated Railroad Company shall construct, equip, maintain, occupy and use to the full capacity of its road as its general main machine and repair shops, round house, car shops, paint shops, blacksmith shop and office of and general division point at or within three thousand yards of the court house in the city of Princeton, in the county of Gibson, in the state of Indiana:

"First. The round house shall be constructed with thirty stalls, a capacity to accommodate at least thirty engines at a time.

"Second. The machine and boiler shops shall be at least two hundred and fifty in length and seventy-five feet in width.

"Third. The car shops shall be at least eighty feet by one hundred and sixty feet.

"Fourth. The paint shops shall be at least one hundred and eighty feet by forty feet.

"Fifth. The blacksmith shop shall be seventy-five feet by one hundred feet.

"Sixth. The office building shall be at least eighty feet by thirty-five feet, or if buildings are shaped different from the above described they must be built and occupied as great in extent in aggregate in area and number as these described aforesaid. Each and all of said shops shall be constructed of brick or brick and stone; the construction of said shops shall be begun on or before the first day of June, 1891, and completed and equipped and occupied and be used to the full capacity of the road on or before December,

1894, and for ninety-nine years and perpetually thereafter. Should the said railroad company or their successors and assigns fail at any time after January, 1894, to use said shops to the full capacity of their road for any consecutive period of one year, then in that event the amount so voted and donated by said township (Patoka) shall revert to the tax payers of said township and be paid over by said railroad company, their successors or assigns, to the treasurer of Gibson county, Indiana, for the benefit or use of the tax payers of said Patoka township, and the buildings shall revert to the parties or company who donated the ground upon which they are erected.

"Should the aforesaid buildings be destroyed by fire, lightning or any other cause, they shall be rebuilt immediately and as fast as possible by said railroad company, and when rebuilt shall be equipped, used and occupied to the full capacity of, and by said railroad company, as before provided.

"It is further agreed while this donation shall be collected according to law, that no part of the same shall be paid over to the railroad company until all of the aforesaid shops are built, equipped, occupied and used to the full capacity of the said railroad, as the general machine and repair shops of said railroad company, and a certified copy of the acceptance and ratification of this contract by the directors and the majority of the stock holders of the Louisville, Evansville & St. Louis Consolidated Railroad Company is tendered to the auditor of Gibson county, Indiana, for filing as a part of the record of the board of county commissioners of Gibson county, Indiana."

This proposition was published in the *Princeton Clarion* and the voters of Patoka township given a chance to form their opinions as to the matter.

On Saturday, November 22, 1890, transportation was provided for three persons from each school district in Patoka township to Washington, Daviess county, Indiana, to examine for themselves the Baltimore & Ohio shops there, and to go among the citizens and farmers of that vicinity for the purpose of learning whether the voting of a sixty-six thousand dollar tax, payable in four installments, April, 1892, November, 1892, April, 1893, and November, 1893, was advisable or not. The farmers of each school district appointed the men to go. Four hundred boarded the special train that day and went to Washington. The dissenters were in the minority when the train returned, and these were mostly ones who had partaken too freely of the "old red eye."

The board of county commissioners ordered an election to be held in Patoka township on Tuesday, January 13, 1891, by legal voters, to determine the question of appropriating the desired money in aiding the railroad

in changing the line of its road and also in the way of making improvements and adding division and repair shops. At this election there were nine hundred and fifty-nine votes in favor of the tax, and four hundred and ten not in favor, making the majority in favor of the shops five hundred and forty-nine. The four hundred and ten voters opposed just about represented the number in the township against the improvements. These men held opposition meetings where orators were imported for the purpose of stirring up the people to their side, but the efforts proved futile. The majority of the people saw the benefit of the shops.

The appropriation was made and the shops built. Meanwhile a land company known as the Princeton Land Company was formed to buy a large tract of ground and donate from this tract the forty acres needed by the railroad company, and to plat the remainder into town lots and sell them, thereby making profit on the investment. Thomas R. Paxton was president of this company, John H. Miller was secretary, and Harry Kurtz was the promoter.

At this date, 1914, the shops are still growing, and have come to be one of the greatest industries in the county of Gibson. From three hundred to five hundred men find employment here, and the monthly pay roll amounts to over thirty-five thousand dollars. The shops are located in the southern part of the city, and transportation is provided by automobile from the downtown district. The shops are equipped with the newest and best machinery, and the slogan of the place is "efficiency and dispatch." The most modern safety appliances are used to prevent accidents, but when these do occur, as they are bound to do, immediate attention is given to the victim. The round house has a capacity of eighteen engines, that is, comfortable working capacity.

In closing this short exposition of the Southern shops it is only fitting to pay a small tribute to the man who was responsible, perhaps more than any other, in securing this improvement for the city of Princeton. This was Henry (Harry) Kurtz. He gave up a lucrative position, also his own money, so that he might aid the cause of a better Princeton. He labored hard, he sacrificed, and all without pay. Nothing more could higher perpetuate the memory of this patriot. The Southern shops are in fact a monument to Harry Kurtz.

#### HAZELTON RAILROAD WRECK.

One of the worst wrecks in the history of southern Indiana occurred on the Evansville & Terre Haute road, now the Chicago & Eastern Illinois, at three o'clock, Wednesday morning, March 10, 1897. Fast train No. 5, south bound, was wrecked at the high embankment forming the southern approach

to the White river bridge about two miles north of the town of Hazelton. Back water from White river had flooded that portion of the country up to within a few feet of the track and the water depth measured about twenty feet. The high embankment was consequently weakened and gave way under the weight of the heavy train. When the train approached the fatal bridge it was running at a speed of twenty-five miles an hour. The engineer obeyed orders and slowed his engine as he drew near the bridge, but was still running at a good rate of speed when the embankment was reached one hundred and fifty yards from the bridge proper. Then came the catastrophe, sudden and appalling, and unavoidable as much as tragic.

Without warning the track gave in and literally slid out from under the engine. The water rushed through the opened levee, and the aperture was widened rapidly by the force. The engine turned over into the ditch ten feet east of the track, landing broadside in five feet of water. The baggage car followed and plunged headfirst into the washout. The smoker came next and was telescoped by the baggage car: the top being cut off down to the level of the windows. The ladies' coach and sleeper remained on the track and none of the occupants were injured in the least.

The death roll was numbered from the occupants of the submerged coach and baggage car. This ill-fated coach broke loose from the couplings and floated down stream, where it finally sank. Only one or two bodies were ever recovered from this car, and the number of men therein is now but a matter of conjecture. A large number, possibly a dozen, lives were lost, it is certain, among them being Conductor George A. Sears, whose arm was seen protruding from one of the windows as the coach sank. Not until April 29th, more than six weeks after the wreck, did one body come to light, and that was a traveling man from Fort Wayne named W. H. Lange. Professional divers worked on the wreck for days and days, but to no avail. The toll is the secret of the quicksand and water, forever hidden to the knowledge of man.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### AGRICULTURE IN GIBSON COUNTY.

Ever since the dawn of creation agriculture has claimed the attention of the major portion of the human race, either directly or indirectly. In fact, the race could exist but a brief time were it not for that which the soil brings forth and this must largely be produced by the untiring labors of the diligent, faithful husbandman. Some sections of the state of Indiana, as well as many other states, have other resources upon which to subsist, financially, but the great wealth comes from the soil and harvesting of crops. There are many excellent farming counties in this commonwealth, but few, if indeed any, can produce better crops than does Gibson county, one year with another.

The quality of soil and general adaptibility of the land for the production of crops in any given community is best seen by glancing at the state reports that show the annual returns, from an impartial, unbiased standpoint. Such reports show that in 1900 Gibson county had 2,973 farms, and ten years later it had 2,882 farms. The number of native white farmers in 1910 was 2,687; foreign-born farmers, 103; negroes and other races, ninety-two farmers.

The number of farms in the county in 1910 from three to nine acres, was 107; from ten to nineteen acres, 157; from twenty to fifty acres, 655; from fifty to one hundred acres, 841; from one hundred and seventy-five to two hundred and sixty acres, 240; from two hundred and sixty to five hundred acres, 96; from five hundred to one thousand, 9.

Of the approximate 311,000 acres in the county, there were 273,000 acres in farms; improved lands in farms, 244,000 acres; woodlands in farms, 25,300 acres; other unimproved lands in farms of the county, 3,202 acres. The average number of acres per farm was ninety-four. The total valuation of all farm property in 1910 was \$21,484,996, an increase of seventy-two per cent. in the last decade. Of this amount over two million dollars was in domestic animals. The values were classed as follows: Land, 75 per cent.; buildings, 12 per cent.; improvements, 2 per cent.; domestic animals, 10 per cent. The average value of lands in Gibson county was shown in the 1910 reports to be \$59.59 per acre.

## PRINCIPAL CROPS.

The state reports for 1910 show the following: Acres of corn, 71,000; bushels, 2,746,756. Oats, 4,370 acres; bushels, 88,200. Wheat, 55,880 acres; bushels, 1,020,000. Rye, 408 acres; bushels, 4,728. Barley, 12 acres; bushels, 236. Clover seed, 358 bushels. Potatoes, 600 acres; bushels, 70,149. Tobacco, 15 acres; pounds, 14,160. Hay and forage, 25,716 acres; tons, 33,003. Timothy, 8,268 acres; tons, 10,143. Clover, 5,872 acres; tons, 7,360.

The total value of the domestic animals in the county in 1910 was placed at 2,020,583. Of this amount there was of cattle, \$350,000; of horses, \$987,000; of mules, \$360,000; asses and burros, \$8,000; swine, \$256,000; sheep, \$58,000. Of poultry there was in value, \$87,103; of bees, \$2,643.

## AGRICULTURE THIRTY YEARS AGO.

The following appeared in a former history of Gibson county, and reflects the conditions and opinions on the soil and crops at that date: "This county contains within its limits some of the best and most productive soil within the state. Agricultural pursuits are, in fact, the leading employments of the people and the rich returns that they bring to those engaged in them promise to attract strangers and reward all who devote their labor to them. Gibson county is located within the wheat belt. The leading staple products are: Wheat, Indian corn, oats, potatoes, hay, tobacco and sorghum. The productions are so varied as to warrant the assertion that no year or season can occur in which the true husbandman will be completely disappointed in his hopes. Another branch of industry is stock raising. In this county may be found a few farmers engaged in breeding blooded sheep, cattle, horses, swine and poultry. This is an industry that ought to receive more attention from the farmers generally. Almost every desirable fruit, every useful grain, every nutritive grass, is found here growing to perfection. Industry may grow rich with the proper use of its resources and domestic comfort, and even luxury may find ample opportunities to gratify every reasonable desire."

Since the above was recorded this county has advanced wonderfully in the farming and stock-raising industry. Better crops, more yield per acre and better stock has come to obtain in every township in the entire county. Land has rapidly advanced in price, yet not so high that renting is out of date because of small profits, but on the other hand many of the renters are

making good money for the work they are annually doing on other men's lands.

GIBSON COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

By Roy P. King.

In the history and development of Gibson county, there is no movement or organization so closely interwoven into the affairs of the county as the Gibson County Horticultural and Agricultural Association and no historical sketch of the county would be complete unless it included a review of the sixty-two years of energetic co-operation of the county's leading citizens toward advancing the interests of the farmer, the merchant, the mechanic and the artisan and instilling in them the desire to excel in every line of production and trade.

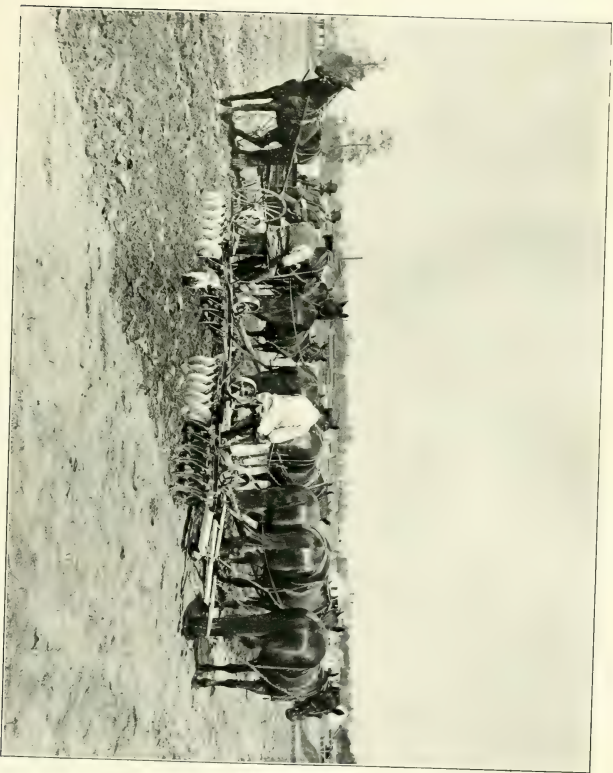
To give a complete review of the activities of the Gibson County Fair Association it is necessary to go back several years before the formation of the society to record a number of events which were responsible for its formation and which laid the groundwork for the association, which flourished until today it ranks above any of its kind in the state.

To one man, long since forgotten except by a few older residents of the county, belongs great credit. This man was Dr. George B. Graff, who in 1843 came to Princeton from Maryland, a man whose mind dwelt upon the future with an infinite faith in the great Middle Western states and whose philanthropy aided in its growth and development. As evidence of his philanthropic spirit, it is shown that, at considerable expense, Doctor Graff imported to Gibson county a quantity of what was then known as "White" or "Tapahannock" wheat, the species which is grown throughout southern Indiana today. The wheat was given to the farmers of the county for seedling purposes and proved a success beyond all expectation.

From stories of the generousities of Doctor Graff which have been handed down he was at all times deeply interested in the growth and welfare of Gibson county and when in 1852 he projected the idea of holding a county fair, he secured the support of the leading citizens of Princeton and the surrounding country, including Dr. John McMaster, John Hargrove, A. Lewis, W. Kurtz, Dr. Joseph I. Neeley, Dr. W. W. Blair and others, whose names are closely linked with the history of the later organized fair association.

The idea of holding a fair was financed by the men named above and it was held in the court house yard at Princeton, November 11, 1852. Such live stock as was exhibited was tied to the fence surrounding the court yard





UP-TO-DATE SCENE ON TICHENOR FARM, NEAR PRINCETON.



and an effort was made toward a display of farm products of all kinds. No admission was charged and the premiums were made up from money given by the merchants and others of Princeton. The premiums amounted to thirty dollars. In addition to the cash premiums, silver cups were awarded as prizes and this feature was continued long after the fair association was organized. The officers of this preliminary organization were: John Hargrove, president; Andrew Lewis, secretary, and William Kurtz, treasurer.

The first fair was so well attended and was such a success that it was repeated the following year, on October 4th. During the following two years, for some reason, no fair was held, but in 1856 the movement was revived with added success. The premiums paid in 1856 amounted to two hundred and twenty-five dollars, with four hundred and ten entries in all classes. Like the former two fairs, this was also held in the court house yard.

The unquestionable success of the fair in 1856 led to the organization of the Gibson County Horticultural and Agricultural Association. It was evident to everyone that the movement was one which would increase in favor and on September 19, 1856, articles of incorporation were filed, signed by the following: Judge Elisha E. Embree, Dr. W. W. Blair, Silas M. Holcomb, Sr., A. B. Lockhart, Alexander Devin, John McMaster, George Kendle, Dr. Joseph I. Neeley, Thomas L. Smith, George W. Polk, Dustin Mills, B. F. Meade, D. T. Linegar, Thomas McMullen, T. B. McCormick, S. M. Barton, Robert Boswell, James, P. O. Lownsdale, Horace Page, Francis Wade, John McWilliams, A. G. Boswell, George Byers, James T. Embree, B. B. Estes, Joseph Devin, A. Poland, Hallock & Parmenter, N. B. Maxam, Andrew Lewis, Hamilton Polk, Samuel Hall, R. B. Hallock, Samuel T. Davis, John Lagow.

It is interesting to note that of the list of original signers of the articles of incorporation, Dr. W. W. Blair, of Princeton, is the only one living at the present time (1914).

Though Dr. George B. Graff took an active interest in the permanent organization of the association, his name does not appear in the list of incorporators. However he was the first corresponding secretary of the association. Doctor Graff did not remain in Princeton to see his idea blossom, as that same year, or early in 1857, he moved to Omaha, Nebraska, where he died in 1895.

The articles of incorporation stated that non-dividend-paying shares of stock should be issued and at the beginning of the organization two hundred

and thirty-three of these shares were sold. In later years considerable other stock was issued, but always with the original idea that they should not become a commercial asset.

At the first meeting of the directors the following officers were elected to serve one year: Judge Elisha Embree, president; A. Harrison, vice-president; G. B. Graff, corresponding secretary; W. W. Blair, recording secretary; A. B. Lockhart, treasurer.

The board of directors consisted of twelve members, but the names of the members of the first board are unknown, the early records of the association having been destroyed by fire.

At the first meeting, the directors were given authority to purchase not to exceed ten acres of land for permanent grounds in a suitable location, near the town of Princeton, and in accordance with that order eight acres were purchased from Judge Elisha Embree, which was the nucleus of the present beautiful grounds of the association. The original tract of land lies near the present main entrance to the grounds and extends westward.

The fair of 1857 proved the success of the venture. Over seven hundred entries were made that year and the proceeds of the fair were over seven hundred dollars. Admission to the grounds was charged for the first time.

There is no record of the fair of 1858, but in 1859 the receipts were more than one thousand five hundred dollars and the premium list was a trifle over eight hundred and fifty dollars. A fair was held in 1858, but the records were destroyed.

By this time the fair had grown to such proportions that it was necessary to purchase more land and on January 4, 1860, this was done, six more acres adjoining the original tract being acquired from Judge Embree. This additional land permitted the grading of a show ring, one-third of a mile in circumference.

For many years following the organization of the association racing was not a feature of the fair and this ring was used for show purposes only. Eventually racing became popular and the track was utilized for this purpose, not, however, without considerable opposition on the part of many stockholders who were opposed to it from principle.

Other additions were made to the grounds from time to time as the fair grew in proportion. In 1870 six acres were added, in 1880 three acres, 1882 three acres, 1887 six acres and in 1892 nineteen acres. The addition of 1892 was the last addition, but beside those mentioned prior to 1892 there were other smaller lots purchased, making the grounds contain at the present time a fraction over sixty acres.

Following the purchase of the largest addition of land in 1892, a half-mile speed ring was surveyed and many new buildings erected, which improvements were followed a few years later by the erection of a grand stand with a seating capacity of six thousand. In 1913 a permanent administration building was erected and the improvements contemplated in the near future include an exhibit hall or coliseum of ample proportions.

Every year since its formation has seen the association more successful, until at the present time it stands as one of the most stable of the organizations of its kind in the Middle West. The boast that Gibson county has one of the best county fairs in Indiana or surrounding states is not an idle one. It has kept pace with modern thought and as conditions have changed, so has the policy of the fair management been changed, except as to the fundamental ideas upon which its success has been built. It has always been the policy to not limit competition in the matter of exhibits, except during the first three fairs which were held, and in the awarding of premiums the non-resident of the county stands an equal chance with all. Quality alone is considered. The fair, in a strict sense, is not a county fair.

From the first the Gibson County Fair Association has been capably officered, which fact alone is responsible for much of the success which has attended it. A roster of its officers and directors contains the names of many of the most conscientious and influential men of Gibson county.

Throughout southern Indiana and Illinois and northern Kentucky the Gibson county fair has become famous as an event when a day of enjoyment can be spent free from all immoral influences. From the outset it has always been the policy of the association to bar all exhibits and attractions which were lacking in morality. Gambling in all its phases has always been strictly forbidden, as well as the sale of intoxicants on the grounds. In the well-grounded belief that running races attracted an undesirable class of people, no speed contests have been staged except harness events. In the strict and impartial enforcement of these rules, lies much of the success of the fair in all the years of its successful operation.

The Gibson County Fair Association was among the first to be organized in the state. In the few years following, fairs were organized generally throughout Indiana, but in no single instance has success crowned the efforts of the early organizers in a larger degree than in Gibson county. In many counties interest in the fair organization lagged after a few years and in many others in their efforts to instill new life into the organization and revive the waning interest, features were introduced which led ultimately to complete failure and in the end to a complete eradication of the county fair idea.

and in its stead came racing meets, carnivals and like events of no lasting benefit. Through all the years, however, the Gibson county fair has remained true to the first great principles laid down by its organizers, an event where the best that is produced in this and surrounding counties may be exhibited, a time when friends and neighbors may meet to renew friendship, a place where family ties may be again renewed.

Too much credit for keeping alive interest in the Gibson county fair during the years when it seemed to lag and fairs in surrounding counties were being disbanded, cannot be given to the memory of Robert A. Mitchell, who filled almost every office on the board of directors at some time in his career, with credit to both himself and the association. The fair organization has never had a more faithful and energetic worker than Mr. Mitchell and the firm foundation of the association today stands as a monument to his enthusiastic endeavor.

From the first year when the exhibits were few in number and the premium list but thirty dollars, the fair has grown until the entries each year are numbered by the thousand and thousands of dollars are distributed annually in premiums. From seven hundred dollars, the first record of paid admissions, the attendance has grown until more than six thousand dollars is paid annually by those who pass through the gates.

Great pride has always been taken in the grounds and they are unequalled in point of beauty by any similar grounds in Indiana. The natural forest trees have been conserved, large exhibit halls maintained and in every way the comfort of exhibitors and patrons kept in mind.

There are many interesting features connected with the grounds of the Gibson County Fair Association, aside from the fair itself, chief among which was that they furnished camping space for three regiments of soldiers which went out of Gibson county during the Civil war, the Fifty-eighth, Sixty-fifth and Eightieth Indiana Volunteer Regiments, which were recruited on the fair grounds and it was here that the men received their first military instruction.

In the sixty years the grounds have been maintained there have been but few accidents or tragedies which have occurred within their confines. A few years following the Civil war, David Williams, a young man, was killed in a runaway accident and in the late eighties Miss Gertrude Downey, of Francisco, was murdered by Sylvester Grubb, a jealous suitor.

The grounds have been the gathering place for many reunions between families, veterans of the Civil war and fraternal societies and many distinguished men and women have passed through the gates.





BOYS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE FIRST CORN CONTEST HELD IN  
GIBSON COUNTY.



The spirit of keeping alive the county fair idea and making it live into the next generation has always been the first thought of the officers and directors and at the present time the legacy which has been handed down by our forefathers is held in sacred trust.

#### GIBSON COUNTY BOYS' CORN SHOW.

From early times Gibson county has had the reputation as one of the best corn growing counties in the state, and it has kept pace with other counties in modern and progressive methods of cultivating that cereal. There was a time when little attention was given to methods of corn cultivation, the selection of seed for planting, etc., these things being considered of minor importance in the primitive farming days. Then it was the custom of the farmer to prepare his ground by skimming over it with a light plow, harrow it, sometimes, lay it off in crooked furrows, and then it was ready for the seed. The seed was selected from the corn crib, from what corn was left over from the winter's feeding, with little care whether the grain was perfect or shriveled and worm-eaten. The seed selected, the ground "laid off," and other preparations made, then the indispensable boy with his tin bucket was called into service. The boy followed the furrow, dropping the corn from the seed carried in his bucket, three or four, sometimes more grains to the hill, followed by the man with the hoe who covered the grains. After a time some of these grains sprouted, but a "good stand" was an unusual and unexpected result. Re-planting was usually necessary.

But all this has been changed, by the application of scientific study and the exercise of common sense. The farmer of today not only gives attention to the study of the character and preparation of the soil, but also to the quality of the seed. The seed is not only carefully selected, but is tested, and that which does not meet the required test does not go into the ground, but goes to the hogs.

These progressive ideas in farming are due largely to the teaching and influence of Purdue University, and the introduction of this study in the common schools. The result is that the boys have become interested. It has been demonstrated that education and science applied to farming, as well as to other occupations, are necessary to obtain the best results. As a consequence of this awakened interest in scientific farming, the boys are turning their attention more to that vocation, and not so much to becoming lawyers, doctors or preachers.

The man who has done more than any other one person in Gibson county to interest the boys in this industry is W. A. Barnett, of Hazelton. A few years ago he gave a notice through the papers that he would furnish one hundred boys each one quart of high class seed free, if the fathers of the boys would furnish the ground in which to plant the corn and agree to give the boys all the proceeds from the crop produced. A corn show at the end of the season was also promised the boys, every boy to get a prize. Books were to be furnished by Purdue University, by which they were to keep a record of planting, cultivating and harvesting, with bulletins from the same institution for instruction. Eighty boys responded to this offer, and when the records were submitted the production shown was from sixteen to twenty-five bushels from the seed furnished.

The promised corn show was held in Princeton, January 18, 1911, which was largely attended, not only by the boys interested in the contest, but by farmers from this and adjoining counties. Concerning this event a local paper said:

"It has been up to the standard, both in attendance and interest, and the corn show was really better than any former affair of this kind. All who visited the show of corn produced by these boys were impressed with the progress made in corn culture in the last ten years. To produce such corn specialization was necessary, as well as application of brain and muscle. The **boy farmer of today has profited by the experience of his father, and, by the study of soil and conditions, has learned the elements that are most necessary to produce the best.**"

As promised by Mr. Barnett, all the boys who accepted his offer and entered the contest were given a prize. The boys were also treated to a fine **dinner, after which they repaired to the court house steps and had a group photograph taken.** This photograph is reproduced in another place in this volume. Following are the names of the boys in this contest:

#### PRIZE WINNERS IN THE GIBSON COUNTY CORN SHOW.

Walter Adams, Chester Armstrong, Darwin O. Spore, Orin Giesselman, Homer Alcorn, John Mobley, Frank Kimbrough, Oscar Sturges, Cato Powell, Wylie Woods, Oscar Kenner, Warner Johnson, Frank Gambrel, Darwin Woods, Wash Johnson, Thomas Taylor, Moody Blythe, Aaron Goodrich, Guy Loftin, Johnson Emmerson, Louis Marvel, Alfred Wirth, Arnold McCarty, Darwin Simpson, Wayne Gale, Hobert Reed, Carl Woods, Charles

Sides, John Onyet, Ernest Warren, Walter Ackman, Oscar Montgomery, Owen Wallace, Mike Hisker, Alois Knapp, Virgil Emerson, Virgil Jones, D. H. Kirk, Claude Robb, John Rutter, Virgil Seaman, Alfred Lamar, Hobert Lamar, Paul Braselton, Alex. Milburn, Earl White, Cloyd Hardiman, Ray Harris, Thomas Lynch, Wilbur Barnett, Ernest McFetridge, John Johnson, Vesper Morrow, Walter Yeager, Percy Droll—fifty-five.

## CHAPTER IX.

### GIBSON COUNTY NEWSPAPERS.

The first venture in the way of publishing a newspaper in Gibson county was made by a man by the name of John F. Buntin in 1845. The initial number was in July of that year and the form of the paper was a six-column folio, and was called the *Princeton Chronicle*. It made its appearance regularly every week for about six months, when it began to show signs of financial debility, and finally the publication ceased. This was the first newspaper collapse in Gibson county, but was not the last by several.

In 1846 William Kurtz, then county auditor, was instrumental in the purchase of material for a printing plant and starting another newspaper in Princeton. On August 13th of that year the *Democratic Clarion* appeared, with William F. Hutchen as editor and publisher.

Wylie S. Hastings writes interestingly of the *Democratic Clarion*, as follows:

"The August sun was beating down on the thin rows of frame buildings about the public square with a vigor such as few of the old residents could remember. Horses about the hitch-rack around the court house clanked their trace chains in an effort to rid themselves of the pesky flies and at the same time get a mouthful of the short, wiry grass that fringed the yard. Two yoke of oxen hitched to a log wagon driven by a middle-aged man, sun-tanned and dusty, swung slowly up to the town pump along the old state road. Groups of men lounged carelessly in the shade of the trees that skirted the court house yard and discoursed lazily on politics and the Mexican situation. Apparently the town had settled, or rather melted, down into a state of stupid contentment, denoting peace with itself and the outside world.

"Such was the scene presented in Princeton in August, 1846. It was at this time a straggling little village with a few hundred inhabitants who made little or no attempt at outward show, but sometimes in their slumbers there flitted through their minds a dream that some day the village would grow into the metropolis of the 'Pocket.'

"But while there was a temporary tendency toward dullness and lethargy on account of the heat and the hook-worm, there was one place in town

where activity was rampant. It was in a little building on the north side of the square. There was no shingle over the front door to designate what the building might contain, but most every one knew by this time that it was the office of the *Democratic Clarion*. It was a new establishment. Editor W. F. Hutchen was busily at work grinding out the first edition of Princeton's first regularly constituted newspaper, with the exception of the *Chronicle*, which had existed briefly in 1845. He had a burning message for the good townspeople, and it must be said that day.

"Mr. Hutchen was a man inured to toil, as most good editors are, but his stock of patience and physical endurance was strained almost to the breaking point on this day, as he had been battling against great odds. Writing editorials in the humid atmosphere, preparing other copy, bumping over cases, lifting heavy forms, running the old hand press and a thousand and one other things incident to launching a newspaper and getting it before the public were things requiring great fortitude and supreme adaptability.

"At last on this date, August 13, 1846—the thirteenth, mind you—came the fruition of his mingled hopes and fears. It came in the shape of a four-page, five-column paper, part home print and other parts of foreign extraction. But it was nevertheless a home paper and well worthy of the courageous effort. The good people looked at it with a sense of wonderment, gazed at its odd mixture of headlines and then plunged in to devour its contents. However, there were few who realized fully that the coming of this little sheet to their homes marked a new era for the town. To us, who are removed more than three-score years from the time of Hutchen's first effort, the paper, though odd enough in form and general makeup, breathes a message of hope and prophecy. Harken to the sweep of the plucky editor in his salutation:

"Though we were disappointed and unable to issue our paper as soon as we expected, it is now before you, fellow citizens, and, we trust, will answer the highest expectations that have been induced by the circular which ushered it to your notice. In the mechanical execution of the *Clarion*, pains and expense have alike been disregarded; for we were persuaded that we should be amply compensated, and determined to print a paper worthy of the intelligence and liberality of the county in which, we are proud to believe, we have found a permanent home."

"Continuing, the editor says, and we all admire him for his frankness and liberality of thought:

"All are privileged to choose to which party they will belong—and we have been pleased to join ourself with that party denominated "democratic."

We were not guided in this step by a thought that the members of that party were more virtuous or more wise than those of the opposition—we have never believed, even for a moment, that all the principles of truth and virtue were contracted within the limits of a single party; on the contrary, we have always been taught to regard the masses of every party as morally and politically honest.'

"Thus the first permanent home paper Princeton ever knew was Democratic. Nothing strange about that, as the county at that time was, as it has been in more recent history, in the Democratic column.

"In his first paper, Hutchen gives the official statement of the vote in the county for the state and county officers, showing a Democratic lead on the vote for governor of forty-four. The Democratic majority had been cut perceptibly, however, which caused Editor Hutchen to remark: 'The party votes have been affected in favor of the Whigs by a system of swapping, which ought always to be discountenanced.'

"The 'system of swapping' to which Hutchen referred is now extinct in political affairs, thanks be to the good work of the newspaper editors.

"The official vote of the county in 1846 shows that on vote for governor, Patoka township gave Whitcomb (Democrat) one hundred and ninety-one against a vote of one hundred and forty-three for Marshall, the Whig candidate. The entire vote for governor in the several townships of the county by both parties was seven hundred and eight. Stephenson was candidate for lieutenant-governor on the Whig ticket and Dunning for the Democrats, Stephenson winning by a majority of sixty-two. Shannon was candidate for sheriff on the Whig ticket and was elected, there being no opposing candidate. L. Q. DeBruier, Whig candidate, was elected prosecuting attorney, there being no opposition.

"Leaving the political situation to take care of itself (which it did), let us consider the first issues of the *Clarion*. Like all country newspapers of that time, it was long on editorials, painfully short on advertising matter and totally barren of personals. A search of several files of the paper at the Princeton library fails to reveal any personals whatever. The only advertisements the first issue contain are that of the *Morris National Press*, a New York newspaper, and the job printing notice of the *Democratic Clarion*. No advertisements of merchants are found while Hutchen was running the paper. The most frequent notices are sheriff's sales, obituaries and public auctions. The obituary notices appear in the advertising columns. In the first issue of the paper is mention of the death of Mrs. Margaret Sturges, who will be well remembered by older inhabitants.

"Judging by the frequent notices that appear in the early issues, the Princeton Guards were unusually active in those days. Here is a notice of them that appears in the initial issue of the paper:

" 'Attention!

" 'The Princeton Guards will meet on Friday evening next, at half-past six o'clock, at the seminary, for the purpose of drill. By order of W. Kurtz, O. Sergt. Capt. A. Lewis.'

" 'N. B. The Court of Enquiry will meet for the assessment of fines, on Thursday evening next, at 7 o'clock P. M., at the court house, Princeton, Ind., August 13, 1846.'

"In a later issue of the *Clarion* appears another notice of special interest at the time:

" 'Arms! Arms!

" 'This is to notify all persons having in their possession muskets, daggers, sabres, pistols and accoutrements belonging to the state of Indiana, will please deliver them to the undersigned, or inform him of their whereabouts, under the penalty of the law, he being authorized by the governor to collect the same. William Kurtz.'

"William P. Hall was the first lawyer to use printer's ink. His announcement appears in the September issue, 1846, informing the public that he was prepared to practice in the courts of the fourth judicial district. Among the grain dealers advertising was the firm of Milburn & Fisher.

"Under date of August 20 this one appears:

" 'Princeton Seminary.

" 'The fourth session of this institution will commence on Monday, the 24th day of August, 1846. T. M. Munford, Principal.'

"No doubt several old citizens will recall this one:

" '1801

" 'Wednesday evenings are the times appointed for the regular meetings of this mystic association. Members will notice the appointments.'

" 'One of the quaintest that appears is the postoffice notice which runs through several issues of the paper:

" 'Arrivals and Departures of Mails.

" 'John Arbuthnot, Postmaster.

" 'Arrives from Vincennes every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 1 o'clock P. M. Closes at 12 M. for Evansville.

" 'From Evansville every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 9 o'clock A. M. Closes at 8 1-2 A. M. for Vincennes.

" 'From New Harmony every Monday and Friday at 6 P. M. Closes at 6 1-2 P. M. same days, and departs every Tuesday and Saturday at 6 A. M.

" 'Arrives from New Albany every Monday at 2 A. M. Closes at 1 P. M. and departs same day.'

"Speaking about hot shots, however, try this one:

" 'Beware of the Imposter!

" 'One A. C. Stratton, a large, corpulent and full-faced man, of sombre complexion, was apprehended in Princeton on yesterday, on a charge of swindling. He fraudulently uses the steelyards with which he weighs feathers in which he deals. And though he was discharged, the accusations were most clearly sustained, and we, citizens, feel called upon to make this statement, that the unprincipled scoundrel may be known and prevented from swindling others.

(Signed)

" 'Citizens.'

"Some of the news items that appear on the editorial page will be of interest. Here are a few short ones:

" 'The story that Robert Dale Owen had received an appointment from the president as minister plenipotentiary to England is untrue.'

" 'We have the first number of a neat little paper printed at Jasper, in Dubois county. Its politics are of the proper order, and, we guess, pretty well understood by its editor. The paper is called the "American Eagle." Success!'

" 'A bill, says the Cincinnati Enquirer, is pending in the house of representatives, changing some measure of the present rate of postage, making the cost of a letter from a distance of six hundred miles fifteen cents—establishing the quarter-ounce as a single letter, and repealing the thirty mile exception to newspapers. Under the present system the deficit of the department is \$540,000.'

" 'From the Army.

" 'We have heard nothing worthy of note. General Taylor is no doubt still moving forward, and will in due time be quartered at Monterey. The route from Chicago is by land, and is untimbered, so that the army will find its march extremely disagreeable—no shade, bad forage, and scarcity of water will be cause of much trouble and prosecution. It might, perhaps, have been well for the General to have stayed his forces at Chicago until the arrival of a better campaigning season.'

"In the issue of October 31st we were surprised to find the following little item, as we did not know our fathers indulged:



"We understand that a laughing match will come off tonight at 9 o'clock on the public square. The competition is for \$2.00 in money and twenty glasses of whiskey. Competent judges have been chosen to decide the contest and we have no doubt the whole affair will be of extraordinary interest.'

"No doubt! But as no mention of the result of the contest is given in later papers and no one living will 'plead guilty' to having taken part in the affair, there is no way of finding out.

"But let us turn from the laugh-makers and follow a little further the course of Editor Hutchen and his newspaper. The rest is not a long story, but on the other hand, is painful on account of its brevity.

"Under the date of October 17, 1846, this little bit of information appears:

"Readers of this paper will attribute the lack of editorials to the absence of the editor. He is canvassing the district and soliciting subscriptions. He will be in Boonville on Wednesday next and in Mt. Vernon on Friday and Saturday evening. Friends, do not let him "go away empty."'

"This, in itself, appears innocent enough—the editor is out on a business trip in the district. He will be back shortly and edit his paper again. But to the knowing ones, who have experienced the great trials of trying to keep a country newspaper on its feet, the meaning is deep and significant. Know you by this time the *Clarion* is on its last peps. Editor Hutchen is making the final effort.

"Two weeks later, on November 7th, the following announcement appears:

"On account of circumstances unnecessary to be known to anyone but ourselves, we have disposed of the office of the *Democratic Clarion*. The gentleman whose name stands under the editorial head of this number we cheerfully recommend to our patrons as a gentleman and a sterling Democrat, and will fulfill our engagements with our subscribers. Goodbye. William F. Hutchen.'

"The one whose name appeared at the head of the editorial columns from that date for several years was William Kurtz, who took up Hutchen's unfinished work, profited by his mistakes and climbed the ladder to editorial success."

Under the management of Mr. Kurtz the *Clarion* acquired a large circulation in Gibson and adjoining counties. In politics it was Democratic, as opposed to the Whig party of that time. In the great political contest of 1860 the *Clarion* supported the Douglas wing of the party, but when Lincoln

was elected and the Southern wing of the party inaugurated a rebellion, the *Clarion* followed the example of Douglas in giving full support to the Republican administration. The paper took a decided stand against secession and exerted no small influence in the enlistment of soldiers in Gibson county to fight armed rebellion. As the war progressed all of the printers in the *Clarion* office laid aside their "stick" and enlisted in the army, and the editor himself followed their example. As a consequence the publication of the paper was suspended in November, 1863, and remained in this condition for several months.

In October, 1864, A. J. Calkins purchased the *Clarion* plant and the paper reappeared as the *Princeton Union Clarion*. It was now Republican in politics, and has kept the faith ever since.

In August, 1877, Gil R. Stormont became the sole proprietor of the *Clarion* and continued as its editor and publisher for nearly twenty-five years. Under his management the material and mechanical equipment of the office was enlarged and greatly improved and the circulation of the paper largely increased. In 1897 the *Clarion* appeared as a daily in addition to the weekly issue. In April, 1898, the *Clarion* and *Gibson County Leader* were consolidated under the name of *Clarion-Leader*, Gil R. Stormont, editor and proprietor. In July, 1901, the plant was sold to a company composed of Fred R. Ewing, Samuel R. Adams and James A. Westfall. About a year later a stock company was formed and another consolidation was made with the *News*, then owned by Harry K. Stormont. The name was again changed to the *Clarion-News*, by which name it is still known, with Fred R. Ewing, managing editor, published by a corporation entitled The *Clarion Publishing Company*. Since July 15, 1901, the paper, and the controlling interest of the corporation publishing it, has been under the control of Fred R. Ewing. The minor interests have changed hands several times. At present Fred R. Ewing is the editor and general manager, and George B. Grigsby is business manager.

When the *Clarion* became a Republican paper the Democratic party of Gibson was without an organ, an equipment which was very essential to a party in those times, whatever may be the opinion as to its usefulness now. So, in 1861, some of the leading Democrats formed a stock company, bought a printing outfit and employed W. H. Evans and James M. Keyes to put out a paper to advocate the Democratic faith. This was the beginning of the *Princeton Democrat*, which made its first appearance August 17, 1861. At the expiration of three months Mr. Keyes retired and Mr. Evans assumed full

control, eventually buying up all the stock and becoming sole editor and proprietor. Mr. Evans was a practical printer, a forceful writer, with a style all his own, and the *Democrat* soon became a paper of wide circulation and much influence. For many years Mr. Evans with his paper held full sway in party affairs in Gibson county. But he received the appointment as postmaster when Cleveland became President in 1885, and gave up his management of the paper, finally disposing of the plant. The plant was taken over by a stock company, and after various experimental editors had tried their hand at publishing the paper, with indifferent success, John C. Gorman assumed the management. After a long struggle and strenuous effort Mr. Gorman was able to buy up the stock and became sole proprietor, and has made a financial success of the enterprise. He has a modern, up-to-date equipment and publishes a daily and weekly of creditable appearance and good circulation.

During these years a number of other newspaper ventures have been made in Princeton. Some of these have flourished for a time and gave promise of being permanent fixtures, but all, save the *Clarion* and *Democrat*, have ceased to exist. Some of these journalistic ventures were inspired with the idea that there was a long-felt want that needed to be filled and they were ambitious to meet the demand. In most cases the supposed long-felt want was found to be a myth and these ambitious journalists, one after another, passed it along to the next one desiring a course in this school of experience. At one time there were four dailies and five weeklies published in Princeton. The three dailies that had been running for some time had hard work to make both ends meet, and no one knew this better than the publishers thereof, but when the fourth daily came out with a flourishing headline, "We have come to stay," there was cause for real concern as to the prospects of the others. But there was some relief when the paper that had "come to stay" suspended after an experience of one week.

One of the papers which was started and had a fairly successful career was the *Gibson County Leader*. The first number of this paper was issued April 9, 1884, by A. J. Calkins and W. D. Robinson as editors and proprietors. Mr. Calkins had formerly been editor and publisher of the *Clarion*. Mr. Robinson was a young lawyer then, and afterwards judge of the appellate court, and is now located in Evansville. He only remained with the *Leader* for a short time. After a few years Mr. Calkins sold the office to John L. Dunlap and Newt Selby. Then Mr. Dunlap sold his interest to Hugh T. Carlisle, who continued the publication for a few years, and then the plant passed into the hands of George A. Schoeny and W. M. Herschell.

After a few months' experience they disposed of the plant to Gil R. Stormont and the *Leader* was consolidated with the *Clarion* and it passed out of existence as a separate publication.

Another newspaper venture that was developed after some variable endeavors and experimental efforts and was made a success, was the *Evening News*, published by James McCormick. The *News* was the first daily established in Princeton. Mr. McCormick had for some time been publishing the *Prohibition Era*, having in 1888 succeeded Sumner Rose, who started that paper in 1887. After publishing the *Prohibition Era* for a few years with indifferent success, financially, Mr. McCormick discontinued it. From the same office outfit the *Evening News* was established, the paper making its first appearance in April, 1893. It was an uphill job to make a daily paper go in Princeton at that time, but the *News* made good headway from the start and eventually established itself. In the latter part of 1902 the *News* plant was sold to Harry K. Stormont, who conducted the paper until February, 1903, when it was consolidated with the *Clarion*, the identity of the two papers being carried under the name of the *Clarion-News*. The consolidated paper was under the management of an incorporated company, composed of Samuel R. Adams, Fred R. Ewing, James A. Westfall and Harry K. Stormont.

Some time in 1850 *The Gibson Review* made its appearance in Princeton, with John Evans as publisher and James Patterson as printer, Patterson having learned his trade in the *Clarion* office. The *Review* was an advocate of Whig politics and made a strenuous fight against the Democracy advocated by the *Clarion*. At the head of its editorial columns was a declaration in favor of the nomination of Gen. Winfield Scott for President. Scott was nominated by the Whig party in 1852, but the *Review* did not stay long enough to announce his defeat, and the demise of the Whig party at the same time, in the election of that year. In 1851 the *Review* ceased to review things in Princeton and the office was moved to Petersburg.

In 1856 the young and aggressive Republican party formed a national organization and presented a candidate for President in the person of John C. Fremont. The adherents of this new party were not very numerous in Gibson county because of a lingering attachment to the old Whig party. But the principles presented in the platform of the new party found much favor with those who gave them thoughtful and unbiased consideration. To properly present these principles a newspaper was a necessity. This was truly "a long-felt want." With this purpose in view, John E. Phillips and David E. Linegar, two young attorneys of Princeton, purchased a printing outfit and in

the summer of 1856 published the first issue of the *Princeton Courier*. John E. Phillips was a vigorous writer and as editor of the *Courier* soon placed that paper in the front rank of political journals of that time. It was the most aggressive and influential political paper Princeton had seen up to that time, and it gave occasion for people to "sit up and take notice." While the *Courier* was only published for about two years, it did a good service while it lasted, better than some papers have done for a much longer period. The crystallization of sentiment that resulted in the organization of a militant Republican party in Gibson county was due to the *Princeton Courier* more than any other one influence.

In 1858 the *Courier* printing plant came into the hands of a man by the name of Hester and another paper was started called the *Southern Indianian*. James Patterson was associated with Hester for a short time as printer; afterwards Jasper H. Keyes became interested in the publication, under the firm name of Hester & Keyes. Under this management the paper continued for about one year, when Napoleon B. Risinger appeared and the publishing firm was changed to Risinger and Keyes. In the spring of 1860 Keyes dropped out, a brother of Napoleon B. coming to the front. While under the Risinger management the *Indianian*, which had been Republican in politics, performed a coup de main by an editorial announcing that the policy of the paper thereafter would be Democratic. Just how much Risinger received in compensation for this sudden change of faith is not definitely known, but it is certain the pecuniary consideration, whatever it may have been, was more than offset by the shrinkage caused by his Republican subscribers who tumbled over each other in their rush to stop their papers. It was but a short time until the *Indianian* disappeared. In this connection it may be of interest to state that Jasper H. Keyes, one of those who had an interest in the publication of the *Indianian*, died at his home in Lexington, Michigan, February 11, 1914, at the age of seventy-eight years. He was the last of the editors who published papers in Princeton before the war.

One more venture is entitled to a place in the newspaper history of Princeton. That is a publication called the *Farmers and Laborers' Light*. This paper was published in the interest of the Populist party, which covered a great deal of ground in Gibson county at that time. It was started in 1891 or 1892. We are not so sure about the date of its start as its finish, which was on July 12, 1893. The *Laborers' Light* had not done much in the way of illumination until the day and date above mentioned. What was started by the plant then was enough to make up for any lack theretofore

or thereafter. It was about two o'clock on that hot July afternoon when the alarm of fire was heard, and the people were not long in discovering that it was a sure enough fire. It was in a small frame building, about where the Baldwin insurance building is now, on Broadway, occupied then by the *Light* printing plant. This was the beginning. The ending was about sundown that afternoon when all the block in which the fire started, the entire block on the west side of the square, the block north of that and on to the railroad, with scattering buildings in other parts of the town, were a mass of smouldering ruins. The fire originated in an overheated flue of the engine the *Light* office used as motive power for their press, and was under considerable headway when discovered. The passing of the *Farmers and Laborers' Light* was more spectacular than that of several other Princeton papers that had gone before, but it was a very undesirable distinction for those who had to do with the paper.

There have been several newspaper enterprises started in other towns in the county, of which mention should be made. The first of these, probably, is the *Montgomery News*, at Owensville, by E. D. Hulfish, in 1870. This paper was published for a few months, but not receiving sufficient support was discontinued, and Mr. Hulfish removed his outfit to Tennessee, where he established a paper. Returning in 1877, he started another paper in Owensville called the *Echo*. With occasional suspensions, this paper has been continued by Mr. Hulfish since that time, until a short time ago when it was consolidated with the *Owensville Star*, with Mr. Hulfish managing editor of the combined papers. The *Star* was established sometime in the eighties by J. P. Cox, who has continued as its publisher, with a short interval, since that time. It has always been a good local paper, neatly printed and with a good circulation. In the same office has been published for several years the *Baptist Messenger*, a paper in the interest of the General Baptist church. It has a wide circulation among the brethren of that faith.

Oakland City got into the newspaper game in 1871, when J. K. Davison and David Doughty launched the *Oakland City Independent*. This paper was continued until 1873, when Mr. Doughty, being sole proprietor, removed the outfit to Boonville. There was also published in Oakland City in the early seventies a paper called the *General Baptist Herald*, of which Col. W. M. Cockrum was one of the editors. We have no data as to the length of time this paper continued there. Joe Armstrong also published a paper called the *Record* for some time in Oakland City.

On July 3, 1880, the *Oakland City Enterprise* made its first appearance,

with Nicholas A. Spillman as editor and proprietor. Mr. Spillman was a practical printer and an industrious, hustling newspaper man, and he soon had the *Enterprise* on a solid financial footing. Mr. Spillman died in 1894 and the publication of the *Enterprise* was continued by Briggs Kepley, for a few years. The paper was not able to maintain the prestige given it by Mr. Spillman and was finally suspended and the outfit was removed to Petersburg.

The *Oakland City Journal* was started in February, 1893, by J. W. Cockrum, first as a weekly and after a short time a semi-weekly publication, in which form the publication has continued ever since. Mr. Cockrum is an up-to-date newspaper man, a hustler for business and generally gets what he goes after in that line. Under his management the *Journal* has attained a good circulation and is a financial success. In mechanical equipment for job and newspaper work the *Journal* office is not excelled by any printing plant in a town the size of Oakland City, and not by many in towns of much larger size.

Fort Branch has had a newspaper for several years called the *Herald*, published by Charles Speer, with a fair local circulation. A short time ago the *Fort Branch Times* was started by C. B. and E. C. Swinney. The *Times* is a neatly printed and well-appearing sheet and with the energetic publishers that seem to be behind the enterprise it has a good prospect of being able to weather the storm.

The *Western Signal* is the high sounding title of a newspaper venture in Patoka, but that was all there was of it. Then there was the *Patoka News*, and several other good names for newspapers that have been tried in that town, but they were all misfits. The same is true of several ambitious attempts to persuade the people of Hazelton that a local newspaper was one of their crying needs. In every instance it has turned out that the crying need was on the part of the party who attempted the persuasion. It is not necessary to give a mortuary record of the several newspapers that have met the inevitable in Patoka, Hazelton and elsewhere in the county. It is sufficient to say that they are dead.

In this sketch it is probable that some newspapers that have been published in Gibson county during the last seventy-five years have been omitted, and it is possible that some of the dates and personal mention are not correct. Some errors of this kind could hardly have been avoided, since a large part of the dates and personalities mentioned are gathered from the writer's memory, which is not an infallible source.



## CHAPTER X.

### EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS.

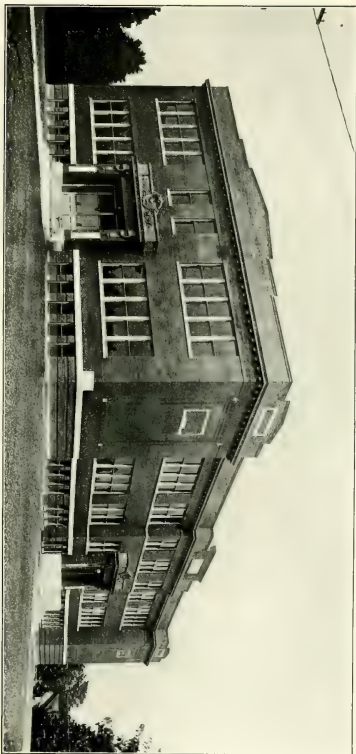
The key-note to all educational institutions in Indiana was the wise provision of the first Constitution, adopted June 29, 1816, at Corydon, then the capital, and which read as follows: "*It shall be the duty of the General Assembly, as soon as circumstances will permit, to provide by law for a general system of education from township schools to a State University, wherein tuition shall be gratis and equally open to all.*" But prior to the laws enacted in 1852-55 the system had been poorly managed and directed by the state, the county and the townships. Many opposed the "free school system" contemplated in the Constitution. Much was left to the Legislature and there the friends of free schools were not in a majority, believing that it was an unequal taxation, hence unsound constitutionally. Many of the courts thus held, too. There was no county uniformity, it being left largely to the option of the citizens of a county or township as to whether they had schools or not. To remedy this evil an effort was put forth—wisely, too—to compel parents to educate their offspring. This culminated in 1852 when the General Assembly sought to make a uniform law for a better common school. The enactments of 1855 and those of 1865, carried out the mandate of the constitution.

At this point it is well to insert a well-written article by James W. Stott, in the centennial number of the *Princeton Clarion-News*, of March, 1913, under the caption of "One Hundred Years in the Schools of Gibson County:"

"Nowhere in the life of any community is the spirit, the progress and the ideals of a people better reflected than in its public schools.

"One hundred years of school history in Gibson county takes us back to the scattered homes of the early settlers in the little forest clearings—at first far apart, but gradually becoming more numerous and closer together. No sooner did settlers become established than some central place was selected for a school house. Here there soon arose a little log cabin dedicated to the cause of education. The first school house in Gibson county was built in the Robb settlement, in White river township, about 1807. In 1808 another was built near where Owensville now stands. As the settlements became more numerous, the little log school houses grew in number.





HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING, PRINCETON.



"During the period from 1807 to 1813 a number of families settled in what is now Princeton. Their first school was organized in a log cabin, which stood near the present site of the White Lumber Company.

"These primitive school houses were built from the abundance of logs furnished by the forests. The floor was made of split logs, and a large fireplace extended almost across one end of the building. Providing wood for this fireplace furnished the big boys exercise. The chimney was made of sticks and clay. The light came through the greased paper, fastened over a wide space left between logs on one side. The door swung on wooden hinges and was fastened by a large wooden bar.

"The furniture of the room was in keeping with the building. There were no blackboards, globes, maps, charts, unabridged dictionaries, supplementary readers. The children were seated on benches, facing walls and with backs toward the teacher. The desks were rude shelving arranged around the walls of the room. When pupils did writing or figuring they stood up to the wall desk. When they recited they marched up to the front of the room near the master's desk, and 'toed the line'—generally one of the cracks of the floor.

"'No lickin', no larnin', was the motto of many a teacher in those days, and the course of study, 'readin', 'ritin', 'rithmetic,' was frequently taught to 'the tune of a hickory stick.'

"In 1818 the state Legislature passed an act providing for the establishment of a seminary of learning in the county seat of each county, and in 1829 the Seminary building, as the center of the Gibson county school system, was completed. This occupied the site of our present new city high school building.

"From 1829 to 1860 is known as the seminary period in the history of our county schools. During this period population rapidly increased and the country schools became more numerous, while the attendance at the seminary gradually increased as Princeton added to its population. The year 1860 marks the beginning of a modern graded school system in Princeton, with D. Eckley Hunter as superintendent of schools. From that time to this the development of the schools has kept pace with the growth of the city, and the high ideals that have characterized the people of Indiana.

"Today more than fourteen hundred school children of the city are accommodated in the various well equipped school buildings, constructed of brick and stone, and this year, the centenary of Gibson county, the people of Princeton rejoice in the completion of one of the most beautiful and sanitary buildings in the state of Indiana.

"The story of school development is the same in all parts of the county. Gibson county has two hundred and thirty-five teachers. It has twelve high schools, of which number four are commissioned—Princeton, Oakland City, Fort Branch and Owensville.

"Besides the public schools, the parochial schools at Warrenton, St. James, Haubstadt, Snake Run and Princeton, and last, but not least, Oakland City College must be given a place in the school system of our county. The high standing of Oakland City College is attested by the fact that many of our best teachers are now, or have been, students there, and that its enrollment is year by year increasing.

"But the log school house has quite disappeared. The term has grown from sixty days to eight or nine months. The Hoosier schoolmaster, whose stock in trade was sufficient for the pioneer days only, has passed to his reward. The state of Indiana is demanding better school buildings for its children, better preparation of teachers, better attendance of children, better co-operation of parents, and as a result citizens thoroughly prepared to build into the life of our state the ideals of an educated, industrious and virtuous people.

"Our fathers have builded well in the hundred years just past. Will the verdict of the next hundred years be as favorable to us? To make it so, we as children, as patrons, and as teachers, must remember that our schools are the hope of our country, and act well our part."

#### OLD-TIME SCHOOLMASTER AND HIS SCHOOL.

From various data at hand, including state reports, educational works, interviews and the local writings of men in this and adjoining counties, the following paragraphs have been culled and selected for the purpose of showing the manner of teaching, the character of buildings, etc., which obtained in Gibson county at an early date, but all of which are really necessary to bring the reader to an intelligent understanding of what trials and difficulties our present boasted public school system has passed through during the last century:

#### THE "MASTER" AT WORK.

The log school house of the first generation, with its clapboard roof, its mud-and-stick chimney, its greased paper windows, latch-string door, puncheon floor and huge fireplace: its puncheon seats, without backs or desks, and its rude, primitive writing desk beneath the window—this was the domain of the early rural school teacher in Indiana. Here assembled the pioneer chil-

dren for such instruction as the early master was capable of imparting. The school hours in the early pioneer days were often very long, lasting in some localities from early morning until sunset, with perhaps an hour or an hour and a half at noon for dinner and recreation. In spite of the blazing fire in the great fireplace, both teacher and pupils were often chilled by the cold winds which found entrance through the numerous chinks and cracks between the logs. Seated upon the backless benches, many of the smaller pupils remained nearly the entire day with their feet dangling several inches from the floor, except as they were called to their recitations.

It was the general custom in those days to study the lessons aloud, each pupil coming his spelling and reading lesson aloud or in an audible whisper. The droning of the words in spelling was frequently accompanied by a rhythmical swaying of the head and body backwards and forwards, generally in time to the syllabication of the words.

There was one great requisite on the part of every pioneer teacher—he must be a good disciplinarian. The most important query usually put to an applicant was, "Can you govern? Can you make the scholars stand around? Can you handle the big boys?" When this point was settled affirmatively in the minds of the district school directors, the applicant was generally sure of being employed, irrespective of other qualifications. It was primarily a question of "no lickin', no larnin'," in those days.

The schoolmaster was a veritable Squeers. Beech and hickory switches, of which he always kept a good supply, constituted the persuading and corrective features of his instruction. The daily application of the rod or "ferule" was considered just as necessary by some teachers as was the coming of the spelling lesson or the noon hour lunch. Some teachers made it a point to patrol the room regularly and whacked each pupil over the shoulders whether he needed it or not. This type of schoolmaster was "one of those old-fashioned teachers who gave the impression that he would rather beat a boy than not, and would even like to eat one if he could find a good excuse. He whipped for poor lessons; he whipped for speaking in school; he took down his switch for not speaking loud enough in class; he whipped for coming late to school; he whipped because a scholar made a noise with his feet, and he whipped because he himself had eaten something unwholesome for breakfast."—Eggleston.

There was generally very little system, method or school room art manifest in the pioneer schoolkeeping days. In some districts the first pupil to arrive in the morning was the first one to recite, there usually being one scholar to the class. After the first lesson was heard there were frequently

exciting and amusing scrambles to recite, the general rule being that pupils were to recite in the order in which they reached the teacher's side. Every pupil was usually in a class by himself, there being as many classes as there were pupils. The pioneer teacher rarely grouped his pupils into classes, such a method of recitation apparently never entering his mind. The individual method, however, possessed some solid advantages which the group method of the present day sadly lacks.

The course of study in the log cabin school house during the first generation was not a very extensive affair. It usually consisted of reading, writing, spelling and ciphering to the single rule of three or simple proportion. Some of the teachers were not able to teach ciphering, but one was found occasionally who could even do compound proportion or "the double rule of three." The latter was considered a prodigy in the early days. The earliest arithmetics used were Guthrie's, Smiley's and Pike's, the last being the one most often referred to. The New Testament and Murray's English Reader were the common reading books, although the custom was, in the pioneer days, for the pupil to bring any book he might happen to have at home. Some of these books were the Bible, hymn books, books of religious poems, Fox's "Book of Martyrs," Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress," Aesop's Fables, Weem's "Life of Washington," Grimshaw's "History of England," Flint's "Natural History" and Emma Willard's "History of the United States." Webster's old "Blue Back" Elementary Speller was almost universally used.

An extended course in spelling always preceded the reading. The scholar progressed gradually from "a-b ab" to "incomprehensibility." After a prolonged apprenticeship in spelling the words, and in pronouncing them at sight, reading was taken up. The speller contained progressive lessons in reading, made up of short, pithy moral sentences and pointed stories, which usually contained one or more words used in connection with the annexed spelling lesson.

Great stress was placed upon spelling by the old schoolmasters. It was a universal custom in the country schools, even up to and later than 1850, for the whole school to stand up twice a day and spell for head. Upon one day in the week, usually Friday, the afternoon was given over to a spelling match in which the whole school took part. The custom when spelling was to pronounce the word first, then spell and pronounce each syllable separately, repeating each of the preceding syllables in connection with the syllable last spelled, then pronounce the whole word again when completed.

In some of these early schools, when the scholars had read and studied

the spelling book through and through several times and could pronounce all of the words at sight, they were formally set to reading.

Writing usually followed spelling and reading. Quill pens were universally used in the earlier days, there being at that time no lead or slate pencils. It was one of the requirements of the schoolmaster that he should be able to fashion pens out of goosequills. Copy books were usually made of sheets of foolscap paper sewed together. Home-made ink was made by mixing together the inner bark of the maple with copperas, or from sumac and oak balls in vinegar. Pokeberry juice was sometimes used, but on account of its tendency to sour it never came into general use. The most common type of inkstand of that period was made from a section of cow's horn which was fitted into water-tight wooden bottles. Pewter and lead were also used for making inkstands.

During the writing recitation the scholars sat on a bench by the long shelf or table under the window. If they were beginners they practiced on making the "pot hooks and hangers" that constituted the first exercises. If they were further advanced, they followed the copy set by the master, this copy usually consisting of some moral or literary gem worth remembering, such as "Commandments ten, God gave to men."

After writing, the subject of arithmetic or ciphering was usually taken up. This was practically limited to the boys, as the girls were not considered, as a rule, to have "heads for figures." Occasionally the girls would take up grammar or geography when these branches happened to be taught, which was not very often. Grammar was seldom looked upon with favor, it being considered an absolute waste of time to study it.

Indiana was admitted as a state in 1816. The system of schools in the first generation lasted, therefore, until about 1850. A number of new and better text-books were introduced during the latter part of this generation. McGuffey's readers and spellers became very popular, as did also Ray's arithmetic, which was introduced in 1848. This arithmetic took the place of the older Guthrie's, Smiley's and Pike's, and introduced dollars and cents instead of shillings and pence as a form of money exchange. The more advanced teachers now taught "square and cube roots" in addition to the single and double rule of three. The best types of schools used Olney's or Mitchell's geographies, Kirkham's grammar, Goodrich's history and Comstock's physiology.

The county seminaries, established by the state Legislature in the early twenties, were distributed liberally through the state in about half of the

counties. These institutions, in connection with private academies, formed the basis for the higher public education in the state. Seventy-three private and incorporated schools were opened between 1825 and 1850. These seminaries and private schools constituted the first approach to the present high school system. Types of each of these schools have already been given in the discussion of the schools in Princeton.

Notwithstanding the leavening influence of these institutions in connection with the rural school districts, the school system of Indiana before 1850 was woefully lame. Free schools were considered by many as undemocratic and those who objected to them were bitterly opposed to taxing themselves to educate other people's children. The idea had not yet become prevalent that it is the right and the duty of the state through the taxation of all its citizens, to provide every child with an education. A member of the Legislature in 1837 declared, during the discussion of a proposed school tax, "When I die, I want my epitaph written, 'Here lies an enemy to free schools!'" (Boone, Richard G.; *History of Education*, p. 87.) In 1833 it was estimated by a competent educator that "only about one child in eight between five and fifteen years was able to read."

Caleb Mills, a thoroughly progressive educator from New Hampshire, settled in Indiana in 1833. During the next decade and a half he labored incessantly to create a more enlightened educational sentiment in Indiana and to reduce the large per cent. of illiteracy. Principally as a result of his agitation the Legislature of 1847-48 passed an enactment allowing the people of the state to vote for or against a proposition to tax themselves for the support of free schools.

The election for this purpose was held in the fall of 1848, and the proposition was carried by a majority of 16,636 for free schools; 78,523 votes were cast in the affirmative and 61,887 in the negative.

The Legislature of 1848-49 enacted a new school law, authorizing public taxation for schools, but leaving the people of each county free to accept or reject the law as they chose. An election for this purpose was held in August, 1849, and the result was a majority in favor of the law of 15,767. Fifty-nine counties voted in the affirmative and of the thirty-one that voted against the law twenty were in the southern half of the state.

According to the Indiana census of 1850 there were at that time nearly seventy-five thousand people over the age of twenty-one who could not read. "Forty thousand voters could not read the ballot they voted, and nearly thirty-five thousand mothers could not teach their children the alphabet." (Conklin, Julia S., *Young People's History of Indiana*, p. 215.)



The new state Constitution of Indiana was adopted on February 10, 1851, and became the law November 1, 1851. A new era in education began with the ratification of the new Constitution. The pioneer period was over.

Following the adoption of the Constitution, the Legislature of 1852 supplemented and amplified the educational provisions contained therein and thus laid a broad basis for future educational development. By enactment of this Legislature the township became the political and the school unit of the state, Indiana being the first state to adopt the township as the school unit.

By the Legislature of 1852, a law was passed providing for the sale of all county seminaries, the funds to be used for the benefit of the common schools. A general tax of ten cents on each one hundred dollars was also provided for school tuition purposes. Section 130 of the same act declared that "The voters of any township shall have power at any general or special meeting to vote a tax for the purpose of building or repairing school houses and purchasing site therefor, providing fuel, furniture, maps, apparatus, libraries, or increase thereof, and for continuing their schools after the public school funds shall have been expended, to any amount not exceeding annually fifty cents on each one hundred dollars of property and fifty cents on each poll."

Thus were free schools ushered in for the first time in Indiana. Up to this time secondary education was popularly relegated to private enterprises and religious denominations and it was still a question in the minds of a large proportion of the people whether it was right to tax everybody for the maintenance of the common schools. Under the provisions made by the law of 1852, however, new school houses were rapidly erected, graded schools were organized all over the state, and within a few years many of the larger towns and cities had excellent high schools.

Just at the time, however, that educational progress had gained an excellent start a severe blow was given it by an unfavorable decision of the supreme court of Indiana. In 1858 the court declared unconstitutional the laws permitting local taxation, on the ground that these laws were not "general and uniform" as required by the Constitution. This decision proved disastrous not only to the common schools but caused the abandonment of every high school in the state.

In 1865 the Legislature passed the same law with different wording and this was soon afterwards declared constitutional by the supreme court.

## MORE ON GIBSON COUNTY EARLY SCHOOLS.

No complete record is extant concerning many of the first schools of this county, for the pioneers made, but seemed to have little time to preserve, history. It is generally conceded, however, from such facts as have been preserved in printed page and memory, that the first school house was erected about 1807-08, in the northern part of White River township, in the Robb settlement, and soon thereafter in two or more other localities.

Of this first school house it may be related that the structure was a one-story log house with clap-board roof and puncheon floor; the roof was held on by weight-poles made fast by hickory withes; it had windows of greased paper to admit the light, a portion of a log being left out on each side to make room for a substitute for glass. A large fireplace extended across the entire rear end of the room, which was made of clay and sticks forming a chimney in which on cold days a roaring fire of logs, piled high, sent out heat; the schoolmaster took good care to have his seat in the warm corner of the room. The fine desks of modern days had no place there, but slabs fastened up around the side of the house by pegs driven into the logs answered as a writing and ciphering table, while puncheon benches served for seats. The pupils all faced the walls when studying, but ranged themselves in a semi-circle in front of the fireplace when called to recite. In those primitive days the varied apparatus to be found in most of our school houses at the present day had no place, no maps faced the wall, neither did a globe or Webster's "unabridged" have a place on the teacher's desk, if desk there chanced to be. No disagreeable chalk dust filled the room, for no blackboard was used. The three rudiments—reading, writing and arithmetic—were the principal studies, the writing being done with goose quills from ink made by boiling in water the outer and inner bark of the maple with copperas, which formed a black fluid. The early schools of the county were subscription schools; the teachers generally boarding round from house to house, among the patrons of the school, and receiving their salary in money or produce. The school houses being few and far between, it was no uncommon thing for the pupils to have to trudge three, four or even five miles morning and evening to get a little schooling. The teachers, generally, were poorly educated, if stories told of them are to be believed, and in many instances sadly needing to be taught themselves. Most of them were proficient in wielding the rod. It is related of one of the early teachers that he would occasionally get drunk during the school hours and vary the program of exercises by whipping the whole school, beginning on his own poor boys first, by way of getting his hand in.

It is believed that the second school taught in Gibson county was by Joseph Duncan, an Eastern man who was better educated than the average man of this section. He taught school here in 1808 in an old log cabin, situated at the spring in the southeast corner of section 2, a half mile west and north of where now Owensville stands. In 1810 William Woods taught in the Williamson settlement, in a small log building, with a fire place in both ends, and a log was left out on one side over which was pasted greased paper to admit the light. Mr. Woods "boarded 'round," as they called it. In 1811 John Johnson taught in the same place, and in 1812 Adley Donald taught in a little log cabin which stood on the south side of the branch, in what is now Princeton. This cabin had previously been occupied by one of the pioneers. It stood on what is now South Main street. David Burch also taught in the same building, later. In 1817 another log school house was built opposite the corner where the United Presbyterian church now stands. This was only used a year or two, and after the erection of the frame Covenantan church, school was taught in it until the erection of the brick seminary building in 1830. Teachers who taught in these buildings were Solomon D. King, John Coursley, Matthew Cunningham and William Chittenden. Ira Bostwick taught a subscription school in the old Covenantan church immediately after it was finished. Major James Smith was another early teacher in Princeton. John Kell also taught a subscription school about 1820. In 1823 William Chittenden taught a private school in his own dwelling. In 1818 William Putnam taught a school in what is now Barton township, in a cabin of one of the old settlers, the building being located on section 7, township 3, range 9 west. George Sharp and James Simpson were others who taught early schools in the county.

Year after year and decade after decade, the schools of the county increased in number and, generally speaking, in efficiency, until in 1884, when the county school superintendent (H. A. Yeager) reported that at that date there were in Gibson county white and colored children of school age amounting to a total of 7,833, divided among the various townships as follows: Barton township, 705; Center, 562; Columbia, 369; Johnson, 1,004; Montgomery, 1,091; Patoka, 997; Wabash, 125; Washington, 524; White River, 911; in Princeton corporation, 1,072; in Oakland City corporation, 473.

At that date there were fourteen graded schools in this county, Princeton, Fort Branch, Oakland, Owensville, Haubstadt, Patoka, Hazelton, Francisco, Somerville, Snake Run, in Barton township; Gravel and Black River, in Montgomery township; Ennes, in Washington township; and Orr, in

Patoka township. Thirty years ago, 1883, the following is shown by the reports to have been the condition of schools in Gibson county:

White River township had nine frame school houses and fifteen teachers.

Montgomery township had one brick and sixteen frame buildings and one log schoolhouse, with twenty-three teachers.

Columbia township and Patoka township had eight frame buildings and eight teachers.

Washington township had ten frame buildings and eleven teachers.

Patoka township had twenty-three frame houses and twenty-four teachers.

Center township had nine frame buildings and eleven teachers.

Barton township had twelve frame buildings and fourteen teachers.

Johnson township had thirteen frame houses and fifteen teachers.

Wabash township had four frame houses and four teachers.

City of Princeton had one brick and two frame buildings and seventeen teachers.

City of Oakland had one brick and one frame building and six teachers.

The total number of school houses in this county was then one hundred and eleven, of which one hundred and seven were frame, one log and three brick. The number of teachers employed was one hundred and forty-eight, and the amount of school property was estimated at one hundred twelve thousand three hundred and seventy dollars. This was the showing made in 1883-84.

#### SCHOOL STATISTICS FOR YEAR ENDING AUGUST 1, 1913.

The subjoined is from the last report of the county school superintendent of Gibson county. It is the 1912-13 report made to the state:

Barton township had enrolled 436 pupils; an average attendance of 364; number of frame school houses, 13; value of all schoolhouses, \$29,000.

Center township enrollment, 412; average attendance, 350; frame houses, 9; brick, 1; valuation of school houses, \$25,000; number volumes in library, 1,200.

Columbia township, number enrolled, 218; average attendance, 91; frame schoolhouses, 9; value of school houses, \$9,000.

Johnson township, enrolled, 227; average attendance, 185; number frame buildings, 6; brick, 3; books in library, 500; valuation of school houses, \$17,500.

Montgomery township, enrolled 960; average attendance, 720; number

of schoolhouses, 18 frame and 1 brick; volumes in library, 1,200; value of schoolhouses, \$30,000.

Patoka township, enrolled, 644; average attendance, 413; frame buildings 15, brick 3; valuation of buildings, \$21,885.

Union township, enrolled, 572; average attendance, 428; number frame schoolhouses 8 and brick 2; valuation of buildings, \$40,000; books in library, 1,100.

Wabash township, enrolled, 211; average attendance, 88; number frame schoolhouses, 8; valuation of buildings, \$6,000.

Washington township, enrolled, 407; average attendance, 319; buildings, 11 frame and 1 brick; valuation of buildings, \$18,200; books in library, 477.

White River township, enrolled, 720; average attendance, 534; buildings, 9 frame and 1 brick; valuation of buildings, \$28,000.

City of Oakland, enrollment, 549; average attendance, 435; two brick school houses, valued at \$30,000; books in library, 1,050.

City of Princeton, enrollment, 1,440; average attendance, 1,229; number schoolhouses, one frame and four brick, with new buildings for 1913 costing \$75,000.

Grand total of value of schoolhouses in county, \$254,700.

Grand total of enrollment in county, 6,796; average attendance, 5,030.

Total number schoolhouses in county, 117 frame and 18 brick.

Total number books in libraries in schools of county, 5,797.

Total number enrolled in the high schools of county, 521; number graduates in county, 85.

Number teachers in county, 101 males, white, colored four; of females, white 125, of colored, seven—total, 237.

Total amount paid to all teachers, \$116,732.08.

Total amount on hand for all schools in January, 1913, \$30,165.

Total amount on hand for all schools in country, \$22,736.

#### SCHOOL EXAMINERS, COMMISSIONERS AND SUPERINTENDENTS.

The predecessor of the present county superintendent of schools runs in this line from the earliest date:

First, the law of 1824 provided for the election of three trustees in each township, a part of whose duties it was to examine teachers and grant licenses. No educational qualifications were required of the "examiners."

Second, the law of 1831 provided for a school commissioner for each

county, whose duty it was to look after the finances of the local school corporations. He served for a term of three years.

Third, the law of 1833 provided for the election of three sub-trustees in each district who were to hold office one year. These persons examined applicants for schools.

Fourth, the law of 1837 authorized the circuit court to appoint annually three examiners whose duty it was to examine teachers.

Fifth, the law of 1849 abolished the office of school commissioner of counties, and retained the three school examiners above mentioned, in each county, and substituted one trustee in the township for the three before employed.

Sixth, the law of 1859 made the number of township trustees one instead of three. In 1861 the law provided for one examiner with a term of three years for the three that had held office heretofore in each county. The appointive power was in the hands of the county commissioners. Examinations were now for first time made public.

Seventh—In 1873 the law was changed again and the old system of commissioners, examiners and trustees was all wiped out and the office of county superintendent of schools was created and is still in operation.

The following are the persons who have served since 1852:

School Examiner—Jacob F. Bird, 1852; W. T. Stilwell.

School Superintendent—W. T. Stilwell, 1873; Henry A. Yeager, Woodfin D. Robinson, Thos. W. Cullen, Henry Neikamp, John T. Ballard, John F. Fulling, Wilbur F. Fisher.

#### OAKLAND CITY COLLEGE.

Oakland Institute was the original name of the present Oakland City College. The two-story brick school building was erected in the years 1868 and 1869 by a number of citizens of Oakland, the building costing a sum of eight thousand dollars. The school was at first a subscription school, and the first superintendent was Prof. Lee Tomlin. The college did not succeed, however, at first, and was sold to the township in 1877, to be used as a public school building. Later new and larger buildings were erected and the capacity has been increased from year to year until now Oakland City College has every modern equipment for educational work.

At present both high and college students attend. The courses are diversified and meet the requirements of all. The elementary, or preparatory courses, lead to the regular classical courses of a college. A corps of twelve



OAKLAND CITY COLLEGE.





professors ably perform the duties of the school. The president is W. P. Dearing. About seventy students are enrolled.

#### VARIOUS SCHOOLS AT PRINCETON.

The schools of Princeton may be classed as follows: The pre-seminary period, 1812 to 1829; the seminary period, 1829 to 1860; the private schools and academies; the Princeton Female High School; the graded school period, 1860 to the present date.

Between 1807 and 1814 there were a number of families settled in what is now Princeton, but it is doubtful whether any schools had been taught before 1812. The first of which there seems to be any authentic account was one held in a vacated log cabin, with puncheon floor and a fire-place extending almost across the end of the building. The chimney was made of sticks and clay. A space was hewn out between two logs extending along one side, over which greased paper was fastened to admit light to the interior. The great door swung on wooden hinges, in the middle, on one side of the building. This house stood on the south bank of the little creek near Main street in the south part of town. The first teacher was Adley Donald, who began teaching in 1812, before the city was laid out and before the second war with Great Britain had been fought. The second teacher was David Buck, in the same building.

In the winter of 1814-15 Rev. Hickman, Presbyterian, taught a private school in the second story of a log house built for a store-house by Willis C. Osborn in 1814. It was the first store-house erected in Princeton and stood on the corner west of the southwest part of the courthouse square, and about where the Farmer's Bank now stands.

In 1817 a log house was built especially for school purposes, near the site of the present United Presbyterian church. This was used until 1820. There the teachers were: Solomon D. King, John Coursely, Matthew Cunningham and William Chittenden.

For the next nine years the schools were taught in the old Covenanter church, on the east side of Prince street between Broadway and Water streets. Mention has been made of the teachers here below. But very little can be learned of the schools of Princeton for the years between 1820 and 1829.

## THE SEMINARY PERIOD.

On December 31, 1818, an act was passed by the General Assembly of the state entitled, "An Act for the Encouragement of Religion and Learning." This act made provision for the establishment of a seminary of learning in each county seat, the proceeds for its maintenance to be obtained by the sale of school lands and the rental of the same. In August, 1829, the sixteenth section (school section) in each congressional township was sold for school purposes. The seminary was intended to be both a common school and a preparatory school for higher institutions of learning. All pupils of the county were entitled to attend and to have a part of their tuition paid from the school fund.

At the meeting of the county commissioners' court in May, 1819, Alexander Devin, William Prince and Robert Evans were appointed trustees, "to be styled a Board of Trustees of the Princeton Academy." These men for some reason did not seem to have acted and in 1822 the county authorities appointed another set, consisting of Alexander Devin, Robert Milburn and Samuel Hall. The court at this time authorized County Agent Robert Stockwell to convey to the said trustees a title to lot No. 1, in the second survey of Princeton. This lot had been deeded to Gibson county for school purposes in 1818 by Robert Evans, who had entered the land in the east part of Princeton.

Delay after delay occurred, and finally a school building was erected on the above lot. A private subscription was raised to the amount of six hundred and eight dollars, composed of some cash, but mostly in merchandise, produce and labor. The building, a two-story brick, thirty by sixty feet, was not finished until 1829, three years after provision had been made for its erection. It should be stated that this building stood on the same ground where now stands the high school building. The lot then contained many fine old forest trees.

The old seminary building was located near the middle of the western side of the block, facing what is now Seminary street, and was just in front of the present new high school building. It contained originally five unplastered rooms, a hall, running east and west divided the north from the two south rooms on the first floor. A stairway led from the hall to the two upper rooms in the second story. The two south rooms on the first floor were used as living rooms by some of the teachers. The upper north room was the only one used for school purposes for many years. About 1847, how-

ever, the school sessions were moved from the upper north room to the lower north room and the southwest lower room was also used as a study room. There were two windows on each side of the hallway facing west, in both the upper and lower rooms. There were also two upper and lower windows on the north and the east side and no windows at all on the south side of the building. There was a fire-place about the middle of the north wall in the upper and lower rooms. The teacher's desk was on the south side of the room. The east side of the room was a favorite place for the boys to sit. A race track existed at that time from the northeast corner of the grounds for a quarter of a mile north and as races took place frequently the boys were very desirous of getting a choice seat where they could watch the sport. There were holes of generous dimensions in the foundation of the building for the passage of air and hogs running loose in those days would occasionally retire to the shady retreat and, fighting for the coolest spot, would lift up their voices to the discomfort of the master in the rooms above who was hearing the "a-b abs" or the "rule of three." Mrs. J. T. Duncan relates that as late as 1868 the hogs would occasionally run into the hall-way in an effort to get out of the rain or the inclement weather.

There were few school equipments in those early days. The pupils used slates and slate pencils, but nobody but the master used a lead pencil. Metal pens were an unknown quantity. The farm yard produced the material for the pens, the goose quill being used for that purpose. The pupils were taught the art of making a pen by the master, who posed as a connoisseur in that art. Mrs. Youngman, who in 1914 is in her eighty-sixth year, and who has spent her entire life here, relates how the boys and girls used to catch the geese which ran at will in that day, and enter into a contest to see who could pick the most quills for pen purposes.

The proverbial dunce-block was in evidence in the old seminary, and many of the older residents of Princeton used to frequently occupy it. School desks were not known then, as they are today. The puncheon benches had no backs.

Calvin Butler was chosen the first principal and Andrew Erskin, assistant teacher. The salaries were not large and were not in cash, but usually in produce which they had to barter away as best they could. Rev. Hiram A. Hunter, a finely educated man, was to receive a salary of two hundred and fifty or three hundred dollars in money, "provided that amount could be realized." This sort of a teacher's contract would hardly suffice in this century. He taught from 1832 to 1834, when came Thomas Hornbrook.

In 1842 the rates of tuition were one dollar and fifty cents per quarter

or six dollars a year From the school fund was drawn one hundred dollars and the balance, two hundred dollars, was made up by subscription. In 1846 the number enumerated of school age was two hundred and twenty-seven; of these, one hundred and thirteen were boys and one hundred and fourteen girls. Of the boys enumerated, only forty-two attended school. It is no wonder that in 1848 there were thirty thousand voters in Indiana who could not read or write, if this condition obtained throughout the state.

On December 12, 1853, J. F. Bird became principal of the old seminary. In 1854 it was announced that those who cared to board themselves could do so. They were given rooms in the seminary for this purpose. It was during the second session that year that the term "Princeton Graded School" was first used, and probably the term had never been used in connection with any school system prior to that date.

Prior to 1854 girls were practically excluded from attending this school and great was the agitation as to educating boys and girls together. The community was evenly divided on this question, and for all those years the parents had to provide for the separate schooling of their daughters in Princeton. The *Clarion* of January 16, 1847, waxed eloquent along this line and said: "Shall the more beautiful pillars of our intellectual and moral fabric be passed by as unworthy of notice? It is believed that a female qualified can impart female education to a better advantage than a male. There is a sweetness of temper, a comely female deportment, accompanying their instruction, peculiar to themselves. They need not Morse's telegraphic code to convey intelligence, but the invisible attractive bond of tenderness and love, which they peculiarly seem to possess."

Elijah Lilleston, in 1854, was the first instructor to teach the two sexes together in the old seminary.

There were four hundred scholars attending school in Princeton in 1859 when the town had a population of 1,589.

A recent school history, a part of an official report, gives the following as having taught from 1829 to 1860 during this "seminary period." The recalling of these names will touch many a tender chord in memory's realm, hence the list and dates are here appended: 1829, Calvin Butler, Andrew Erskin, assistant; 1830-32, Calvin Butler; 1832-33, Hiram A. Hunter; 1833-34, Hiram A. Hunter; 1834-35, Thomas Hornbrook; 1835-36, William Rowe; 1836-37, John J. McClerkin; 1837-39, Rev. H. H. Patten and wife; 1839-42, William J. Bryden; 1842-43, William Stockwell; 1843-44, Doctor Smith; 1844-45, Mr. Collins, Dr. J. C. Patten, assistant; 1845-46, Wasson Stormont; 1846-47, Harvey Munford, Mr. Nesbit, assistant; 1847-48, John

J. McClerkin, Hugh McKelvy, assistant; 1848-49, Harvey Munford, Beza Archer, assistant; 1849-50, W. A. Wandell; 1850-51, R. G. Elliott; 1851-52, Dr. Nathaniel Allen; 1852, Aeneas McPhee; 1852-53, C. P. Coykendall; 1853-54, J. F. Bird; 1854, J. F. Bird, John Orr; 1854, October 31, Elijah Lilleston; 1855, Anderson F. Ely, John Orr; 1855, June, John Orr; 1856, May, Albra Waldron, eleven weeks; 1856-57, August, J. F. Bird; 1857-59, J. F. Bird; 1859 (spring and summer terms), J. F. Bird, principal, Miss Margaret Fentress, primary department; 1860, D. Eckley Hunter and graded system of schools.

#### PRIVATE SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES.

The first private school in Princeton was taught by Rev. Hickman in 1814-15. In 1820 Rev. John Kell taught one and in 1823 William Chittenden taught another at his own residence. Other private terms were taught by Mrs. Berbeck, 1832; Mrs. Emily Harrington, 1835; Mrs. John Ewing, 1836; John Wright, in the winter of 1835-36; Tandy B. Montgomery, in the winter of 1836-37. The second term taught by Montgomery was held in a log cabin near a spring and the scholars used to slake their thirst from this spring by means of a gourd dipper. "No lickin', no larnin'" was his motto and he practiced what he preached almost daily. In 1837 Mrs. Galloway had a private school for girls, as did also Miss Mary Foster. In 1842-3-4 the Misses Sue and Lou Walling taught private schools. In 1850 John N. Evans taught and was very successful. Mrs. McKelvey taught in 1852 and 1853.

Other private institutions here were the short-lived "Misses and Young Ladies" school; the "Princeton Female Seminary"; the "Female College"; the "Princeton Female Institute," which were all attended, at various dates, on account of the decision that none but boys should be allowed to attend the old seminary, which gives one today the idea that boys and men were counted far superior to the gentler sex in those good old days prior to 1850.

#### THE PRINCETON FEMALE HIGH SCHOOL.

Still another institution must be treated in this connection—the Female High School, as first designated. This was organized in April, 1855, with Henry T. Morton as principal and Mrs. M. W. Paxton and Mrs. M. M. Morton as assistants. The school was held in a room under Temperance Hall, where now stands the Odd Fellows building. Mr. Morton decided to erect a building and have it ready for school in the autumn of 1855. He failed, but in the spring following he had it completed. The building was at first known

as the "New Seminary building," but the style of the school itself was known as the "Girls High School Seminary." In September, 1856, both boys and girls were admitted, after which it was known as the "Male and Female Academy." The building was a two-story, five-room structure, located on the east side of West street, between Emerson and Chestnut. It was warmed by hot air and finely ventilated. It was seated with Boston school chairs and desks. The school was well supplied with maps, charts and globes, also chemical apparatus and a cabinet for geological specimens and a good library. The whole was counted among the best equipments in Indiana. Board, washing, light and fuel were estimated to cost fifty dollars per term, while the tuition was twenty-five dollars additional. It had a normal department, doing fine work for those intending to become teachers. In 1856-57 the total attendance was one hundred and forty-three. In the fall of 1858 it changed hands, after which Messrs. Henderson & Brown were proprietors. A year later they sold to Brown & Sturgis, who conducted it until 1860, when, on account of too small attendance and the Civil war cloud, its doors were closed. It was, however, opened again in 1862 by a few citizens who refused to donate toward the maintenance of the public school in the old seminary building. On August 31, 1863, the building was purchased by William Kurtz, acting for the school trustees of the city of Princeton. It thus became a part of the public school property of the city, and there the intermediate department of the public schools was kept until the completion of the new school building in January, 1871, on the site of the old seminary. Seth Ward bought the academy building in 1870 and it was remodeled for residence purposes. This was the parting of the ways—the old private and subscriptions schools were abandoned forever and the new era of a sane, sensible and universal public school system was ushered in.

#### THE GRADED SCHOOL PERIOD.

These schools were organized under the newly formed laws of Indiana by D. Eckley Hunter in 1860. They were divided into primary, intermediate and academic departments. The schools were, for some time, kept in the old seminary building, in the Odd Fellows building and in the basement of the Methodist church. The salaries of the teachers were as follows: Principal of academic department, fifty dollars; intermediate grades, thirty-two dollars; primary grades, twenty dollars. Miss Harmon received twelve dollars per month as an assistant. The first day's enrollment was two hundred and sixty, and reached three hundred and eleven by September 11, 1860. For the first

ten years subscriptions had to be raised in order to maintain these "public" schools, after which date the tax levy covered the expense. The first principal of these schools, Professor Hunter, was a son of Rev. Hiram Hunter, who had taught in the "Old Seminary" in 1832. He was a fine scholar and an excellent educator; served until 1863. Professor Hunter was engaged in educational work elsewhere for a few years, and in 1865 he returned to Princeton and again became superintendent of the schools here. At this time the higher grades of the school were in the former Morton academy. In 1866 Professor Hunter again left Princeton to become principal of the preparatory department in the Indiana State University. In 1871 he was again recalled and became superintendent of the Princeton graded schools, now all comfortably provided for in the new school building on Seminary hill. Here he remained until 1874, and during this term of service the schools were for the first time thoroughly organized under the graded system. The first graduates of the high school were in 1872, under Professor Hunter's administration.

The superintendents of the Princeton schools have been as follows, since 1871, when the entirely free system began: D. Eckley Hunter, 1871-74; A. J. Snoke, 1874-1890; F. B. Dresslar, 1890-91; C. N. Peak, 1891-1903; Harold Barnes, 1903-10; M. D. Webb, 1910 to the coming of the present superintendent, James W. Stott.

#### PRESENT CONDITIONS.

The fiftieth annual report of the Princeton public schools, published in 1910, gave many interesting historic facts, including the following items:

Among the innovations in schools was the introduction of Thanksgiving offerings by the pupils, first established in the schools here in 1903. All kinds of useful articles and cash are annually brought by the pupils who can afford it and donated at the Thanksgiving season to aid, comfort and cheer the less fortunate children of the town. Medicines and pay for treatment for poor children was thus provided for. While the sums are usually small, they show a true spirit and teach the children to be benevolent and thoughtful for their fellow creatures.

The subject of caring for the teeth of pupils in public schools was first introduced in Indiana at Princeton in 1900, when the first special effort was made along this line and since 1908 general inspection of the pupils' teeth have been made. About the same date was introduced medical inspection of the schools, and this has averted disease and in some cases cured many children of ailments that would sooner or later have been serious.



Sanitary drinking fountains were introduced here in 1908 and have worked out great good to the pupils and teachers.

The playgrounds about Princeton school houses are excellent. The teachers and pupils spend their intermissions, in good weather, on these grounds, where swings, teeter-boards, bars and other appliances are found in large numbers. The lawns about the school grounds are kept in a tasty, beautiful condition since 1903, when this subject was first taken up and developed. Lectures were given and the proceeds went toward improving the grounds. The saying, "A thing of beauty is a joy for ever," applies to these modern school grounds.

The new electric clock, purchased and installed by the board in 1910, at the Lowell school building, has proven a splendid improvement. This clock controls the ringing of the bells for all recitations and intermissions in the high school as well as at some other departments. Fire alarms are also sounded by this clock. Fire drills are in constant use in the schools now.

Ten years ago—1903—there was a corps of thirty-three teachers. In 1910 it had increased to forty-one. The average salary of all teachers per month, grades and high schools combined, in 1903 was fifty-six dollars; of grades separately it was almost forty-six dollars; of high school separately, sixty-six dollars and fifty cents. In 1910 it had increased to seventy-two dollars and ninety-eight cents and sixty-eight dollars and seventy-nine cents respectively.

In 1903 the Lincoln high school for colored children was provided. The building is a two-room addition to the Race Street colored school building. In 1910 the total enrollment in the colored school was one hundred and eighty, but it rapidly increased and a two-story frame building was leased. There are now six colored teachers.

#### HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT SINCE 1872.

The subjoined shows the enrollment in the Princeton high school, by years, also the number of graduates in total: 1872, 34; 1873, 48; 1874, 40; 1875, 54; 1876, 49; 1877, 56; 1878, 43; 1879, 45; 1880, 47; 1881, 46; 1882, 42; 1883, 38; 1884, 34; 1885, 49; 1886, 49; 1887, 50; 1888, 54; 1889, 53; 1890, 64; 1891, 65; 1892, 68; 1893, 56; 1894, 60; 1895, 88; 1896, 80; 1897, 94; 1898, 94; 1899, 128; 1900, 139; 1901, 158; 1902, 181; 1903, 149; 1904, 185; 1905, 202; 1906, 180; 1907, 148; 1908, 159; 1909, 187; 1910, 197; 1911, 186; 1912, 221; 1913, 234; 1914, 265. The number of graduates of the high school since 1872, including the class of 1914, is as follows: Boys,



239; girls, 361; total, 610. Since the establishment of the colored high school there have been 15 graduates from that department.

The schools of 1913 are: The high school, Lowell school, Irving school, Franklin school, Lincoln school (colored), Prince Street school (colored).

The new high school building, completed in 1913, is among the finest in this section of the state. It cost sixty thousand dollars, aside from the grounds, which have been owned many years by the town. The old seminary once occupied these grounds, as has before been noted.

## CHAPTER XI.

### CHURCHES OF GIBSON COUNTY.

The pioneers in Gibson county were made up largely of a God-fearing band. This county was no exception to most counties in southern Indiana, in that the church and school house went hand in hand with the general settlement and more perfect development of the country. Many of the early records of these pioneer organizations have long since passed from view and have crumbled with the ever-collecting dusts of time. The best that can be accomplished in way of setting forth the religious societies, their origin and location, is to pick from such writings as have been culled over and used by previous historians, so far as the first history of such churches are concerned.

### METHODISM IN GIBSON COUNTY.

The first Methodist Episcopal society in this county was that formed in 1811 at Patoka, with Rev. Benjamin Edge as minister. The conference minutes show that Rev. John Scripps was stationed at that point in 1815. About that date a congregation was perfected at what is now Princeton. The first preaching services were held in a grove near town, and at times, when weather prevented out-of-door meetings, the homes of settlers were the meeting places. It was not until 1825 that the Methodists at Patoka enjoyed the privilege of holding services in a school house. They had no church building until 1852. Among the early "circuit riders" were Revs. John Scripps, Thomas King, Thomas Davis, Charles Slocum, John Wallace, Daniel McHenry, Elias Stone, James L. Thompson, Ebenezer T. Webster, William Medford, Richard Hargrove, Enoch Woods and Elijah Whitten. The first Methodist church was erected in Princeton in 1838. Judge Elisha Embree was one of the subscribers and an ardent worker in the church up to the date of his death. In relating the history of this church the good judge once remarked: "We have been driven from private houses to the jail and from there to the court house, and I propose now that we build a house of our own." Methodism from an early date prospered and today its churches are scattered everywhere over the thickly settled county. The

church at Princeton was organized about 1815, and the first church was erected in 1838. The second was a brick edifice on the site of the present building, which was erected in 1896; the second church was burned in 1893. The present church stands on the corner of Emerson and West streets. The present value of this church is twenty-five thousand dollars; the value placed on the parsonage is four thousand dollars. The membership of this society in September, 1913, was five hundred and fifty-nine. The present pastor is Rev. C. C. Edwards, who is now in his fifth year as pastor and is an able, enthusiastic Methodist.

In Gibson county there are now—1913—the following Methodist churches: Princeton, with a membership in the First church of five hundred and fifty-nine; Gibson Street church, in Princeton; Fort Branch has a membership of about three hundred; Francisco, a membership of one hundred and fifty-two; Oakland City, a membership of three hundred and forty-three; Owensville has a membership of two hundred and ninety-three; Patoka, a membership of one hundred and eight; others are at Hazelton, two near Patoka (same charge); at Wheeling, Mt. Olivet, Hight's Chapel, Cunningham Chapel, Blythe Chapel, Forsythe, near Oakland City, and Antioch, on the Owensville circuit.

The Methodist church at Patoka was organized in 1851, and now has a membership of one hundred and eight. Its church building was erected in 1851 at a cost of one thousand five hundred dollars. The present pastor, Rev. E. F. Shake, came in 1911 and is doing a good work in the church to which the conference sent him.

The Methodist church at Hazelton now has a membership of one hundred and one members, and has preaching services every other Sunday, being supplied by Rev. Shake, of Patoka.

In Washington township there is what is styled Shiloh church, organized in 1815, and has forty members; the building was erected in 1893, costing one thousand five hundred dollars. It is said by some that this was the first Methodist church regularly organized within the state of Indiana—it was early in the field, of course, if it was formed as early as 1815.

The church known as Steelman, in this county, has eighteen members at this writing.

The Methodist Episcopal church was organized in Oakland in the early fifties. There are at present three hundred and fifty members here, in charge of Rev. Elmer St. Clair. The church was built in 1906, and cost twenty thousand dollars, including an up-to-date pipe organ.

## THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES OF THE COUNTY.

The Salem presbytery held its first session at Princeton, May 9, 1828, and at that session the first Presbyterian church was organized. This was the first perfected society of this denomination, but there had been another partly perfected previous to this date. The first ruling elders elected and ordained were William French and James R. E. Goodlet. The first stated supply was Calvin E. Butler, who, in the spring of 1832, was succeeded by Rev. W. W. Martin. Among other pastors recalled, and whose names should never be forgotten, was Rev. John D. Paxton, of rare attainments and many beautiful traits of character. In 1860 he accepted the presidency of Highland University, Kansas; served two years and resigned to return to Princeton, Indiana, and served as pastor until his death, aged about eighty-five years. The church here had, by that date, attained considerable strength and has ever since been one of the county's best church societies.

On January 12, 1910, was consummated a union between the Broadway Presbyterian church and the Presbyterian church of Princeton. The Broadway Presbyterian church was formerly the Cumberland Presbyterian church until the union between the Presbyterian church in the United States of America and the Cumberland Presbyterian. Ernest G. Hildner was the first and present pastor of the new church, the First Presbyterian.

The present church building was dedicated on April 29, 1894, and cost eighteen thousand dollars. The present membership is about three hundred. The church is complete in every respect, and contains a pipe organ of the latest model, installed by the Welborn family in memory of Dr. W. P. Welborn.

The list of pastors is as follows: Calvin Butler, 1828; William W. Martin, 1832-5; H. H. Patten, 1835-8; John M. McCord, 1838-43; Robert Lillie, 1844; R. V. Dodge, 1844-45; A. T. Hendricks; Henry W. Biggs, 1853; J. D. Paxton, D. D., 1855; H. B. Scott, 1860; John H. Aughey, 1863; J. D. Paxton, 1864; Martin Van Buren Van Arsdale, 1867-8; John Montgomery, 1868; Benjamin Mills, 1879-80; John Stuart, 1880-6; W. D. Ward, 1887-92; Alexander J. Kerr, 1892-5; J. H. Cone, 1896-9; Douglas P. Putnam, D. D., 1899-1904; F. H. Shedd, 1905-8; Ernest G. Hildner, D. D., 1908-1910. At this time the union of the two churches was formed and Rev. Hildner became the first pastor.

The Presbyterian church in Oakland City was organized in 1850, the Cumberland Presbyterian in 1850, and the Presbyterian in 1872. The two

were united in the year 1905, and at present have a membership of one hundred and fifty-six. The church was built in 1906, and cost about fifteen thousand dollars, including an excellent pipe organ.

#### FAIRVIEW CHURCH.

The cause leading up to the organization of Fairview church was a Sabbath school organized at the Page school house in 1890 by Rev. J. Beveridge Lee and Gil. R. Stormont, of the United Presbyterian church of Princeton. Mr. Stormont, as superintendent, with the assistance of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Morton, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Townsend, W. H. Stormont and other workers, carried on this school for several months. When the Page school house was burned, the school was transferred to the Lawrence school house and continued with Amos Legier as superintendent. Another step towards the organization of the church was a protracted meeting conducted by Rev. W. D. Landis, pastor of the Cumberland Presbyterian church in Princeton.

On March 21, 1897, the church was organized by Rev. W. D. Landis at the Lawrence school house with sixty-three charter members. The elders elected at that time were John C. Clark and E. L. Townsend, and John Boal, A. N. Sturges and Samuel Binkley as trustees. It was decided that the name of the church should be the Fairview Cumberland Presbyterian church.

In August of the same year the work of building a regular house of worship was begun on a tract of land donated by Mrs. Josiah E. Carithers. This house was completed and dedicated November 21, 1897, with Rev. A. H. Kelso officiating, Rev. J. E. Jenkins assisting. The first pastor called was Rev. G. W. May, who began his work in the following May.

Since that time the following pastors have served the congregation: Rev. John Welch, Rev. William Carhart, Rev. G. F. McMican, Rev. J. O. Ashburn, Rev. J. H. Kiracafe and Rev. J. G. House.

On the consummation of the union between the Cumberland Presbyterian church and the Presbyterian church this congregation became identified with the Presbyterian church. At a later time some of the members withdrew from the church, thereby reducing the membership. But, by the help of the Lord, and the work of a faithful few, the good work continues.

About the year 1904 the manse enterprise was started which resulted in the building of a five-room house, situated on a four-acre lot adjoining the church building. The little church has been without a pastor during a part of its history, but the Sunday school from which it had its beginning has

continued. The present superintendent has served the school since 1898, with the exception of six months.

There is also a Presbyterian church at Fort Branch, but the proper parties failed to furnish data in time for insertion in this chapter.

#### THE CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES.

The first church of this branch of Presbyterianism in Gibson county was organized by Rev. William Barnett in August, 1817, at the place of worship of the Methodists at Shiloh, Washington township. By many it is contended that this was the first Cumberland Presbyterian church formed in Indiana. Trouble arose between the Methodists and this sect over camp meeting ground dates, and the Cumberland Presbyterians withdrew and made grounds of their own in the township, a half mile distant, and this was known as Mt. Zion. Rev. Alexander Downey served this people six years. In September, 1839, the society divided and Mt. Pleasant was the name of the new church, with Elder Aaron Lewis in charge. Later this church was dissolved and many of the members returned to Mt. Zion. The Bethel church was formed in 1832 and Rev. William Lynn was pastor until 1841, and was succeeded by Rev. T. B. McCormick. Members living in and near Owensville became members of Bethel church in 1876, and later Bethel erected a church at Owensville. Mt. Moriah church was organized at the residence of David Robb, near Fort Branch, in 1828. The first minister in charge was Rev. Downey. In 1839 a church was built near Mr. Robb's. This was used until the erection of a church at the town of Fort Branch in 1866. The Princeton church was the outgrowth of the Patoka church. The Princeton congregation was organized by Rev. Hiram A. Hunter in December, 1832. Subsequently, the Patoka congregation was dissolved and added to Princeton church. Rev. J. E. Jenkins began his labors at Princeton in 1857 and for more than thirty years was the faithful pastor at Princeton. During the last half of the nineteenth century, beyond any question, Mr. Jenkins was the best known minister in Gibson county. The Patoka congregation was again separated from Princeton in 1870. In 1850, near Oakland City, a congregation was formed and called Montgomery, but, owing to internal strife, it never succeeded well. At Princeton, for many years, the church was much stronger than those outside in this county. In January, 1910, the union of the regular Presbyterians and the Broadway or Cumberland Presbyterian churches was effected. The old Cumberland church was sold to the Christian denomination society.

The Cumberland Presbyterian church of Owensville has a membership of one hundred. It was organized about sixty years ago. The Rev. T. A. Devore took charge of the church on October 3, 1913. He also preaches to the Bethel and Antioch congregations, of forty members each.

#### UNITED PRESBYTERIANS AND REFORMED PRESBYTERIANS.

During the first decade of the last century Samuel Hogue came from Tennessee and Thomas Archer from South Carolina and both were devout men and wanted religious services in their settlements. In 1820 Mr. Hogue went on horseback to his old home in Tennessee to seek permission of his old church, the Seceders, to preach the Gospel. He was denied the right on account of his not having been educated for the ministry. On his return to Indiana he chanced to fall in with a missionary of the Reformed Presbyterian church. His name was John Kell, of near Knoxville, Tennessee. Hogue begged the young minister to visit the little settlement at Princeton, not yet named as such, however. It was in the ripe harvest time in 1810 that Kell arrived, and from his coming came the birth of the congregation so well known in the county today. He continued to visit Princeton for six years and then settled here, but still continued his circuit work. The society at Princeton used the old Hardshell Baptist church until 1820, when they erected a frame building on Prince street between Broadway and Water streets. This served until 1836, when a brick church was erected at the corner of what is now Broadway and Prince streets, the site of the Christian church.

From the start the congregation had been of the Reformed Presbyterian creed, descendants of the old Scotch Covenanters. About 1832 there arose trouble over the question of a ruling of the synod forbidding members taking part in governmental affairs, generally construed to include jury service and voting at the polls. This did not meet with the approval of the Princeton church and it was left to a committee, and a majority of such committee voted in favor of members being permitted to serve as jurors. This caused a bad break and the anti-faction, headed by Robert Stormont, withdrew and formed a new congregation, which came to be styled the "Old Side," while the majority body was known as the "New Side."

The Old Side Reformed Presbyterians formed an organization and in 1851 built a frame church on what is now State street, and secured Rev. John Stott as pastor. Rev. Stott was also a physician and had a considerable practice, in addition to his pastoral labors. He came from Ireland and

through his influence a large number of his former parishioners emigrated to this county and identified themselves with his church here. Dr. Stott was a man of fine intellectual attainments and was an able preacher. Owing to some internal dissensions his congregation was divided in the later sixties, and the dissenting members withdrew and erected another church on east Broadway. Dr. Stott, however, continued preaching at the old church to the members who adhered to his side in the separation until the infirmities of age compelled him to give up the work. After this the congregation was disbanded and the building sold to L. H. Wheeler, who converted it into a business house. This house, in its remodeled form, still stands in the old location on east State street, and is used as a grocery store.

The Old Side organization, located on east Broadway, has been fairly prosperous in all the years since the separation, and has had the ministrations of some able men as pastors, among them Rev. D. C. Martin, Rev. Mathews and others. Their present pastor is Rev. M. S. McMilian. They have recently remodeled their old church and now have one of the neatest and most conveniently arranged churches in the town. The present membership is sixty-five.

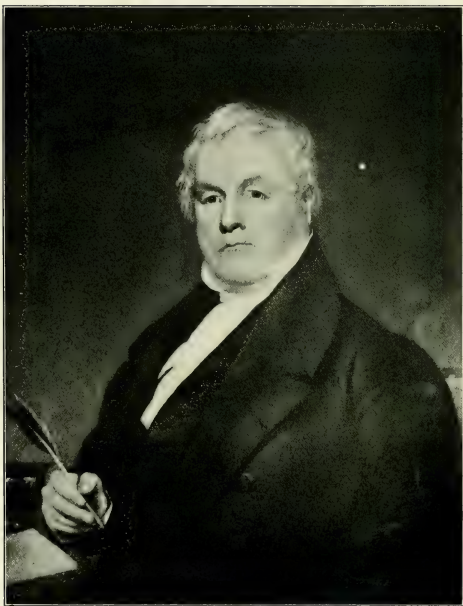
While all this was going on, in 1832, was formed the first Sunday school in Gibson county, the same having been organized by James Hogue and William Orr for the study of the Bible. The first United Presbyterian church in Princeton was founded in 1858. It was during that year that the union of the Associate Reformed and Associate or Seceder churches was brought about under the title of United Presbyterian church.

In 1870 a union was effected between the Reformed Presbyterian (New Side) and the United Presbyterian churches, by which the name of the former was dropped and the united body became known as the United Presbyterian church. A remnant of the Reformed Presbyterians who could not see their way clear to change their church allegiance continued with the old organization and built another church on the corner of Gibson and Water streets. Here they continued to worship for several years, with Rev. Robert Blair as their pastor. Finally this organization was abandoned, the pastor departed to other fields and the members found a place in their former church home.

When the Reformed Presbyterians had grown beyond the capacity of their brick church, located on what is now the corner of Prince and Broadway, they secured a lot and erected a building thereon, on what is now the corner of State and Prince streets. This building was completed in 1858







REV. GILBERT McMASTER, D. D.,  
Pastor Reformed Presbyterian Church, Princeton, 1840-1846.

and it has been the church home of this denomination, and the denomination that has succeeded by virtue of the union, ever since. This old church was wrecked by the tornado that passed through Princeton in 1876, and has been subjected to various attempts to improve the architecture by remodeling the structure, with more or less success. In 1897, largely through the beneficence of Mrs. Ann Eliza Woods Hudelson, a life-time member of the church, the old church was practically rebuilt and it is now thoroughly modern.

Those who have served as pastors of this church since its organization are the following: Rev. John Kell, 1820 to 1838; Rev. Gilbert McMaster, D. D., 1840 to 1846; Rev. John McMaster, D. D., 1846 to the time of his death in 1874; Rev. W. H. McMaster, 1874 to 1881; Rev. John A. Gordon, D. D., 1883 to 1888; Rev. J. Beveridge Lee, 1889 to 1891; Rev. A. M. Campbell, D. D., 1892 to 1901; Rev. W. H. Patterson, D. D., 1901 to 1910; Rev. Morris Watson, D. D., 1911, the present pastor.

#### A PROUD WAR RECORD.

In 1910 the United Presbyterian church celebrated its one hundredth anniversary. At that time a number of historical addresses were given, and one pertaining to the attitude of this church on questions that agitated the public prior to the Civil war, and the record of that congregation in that war, will be of interest in this connection. This is a record that represents the spirit of patriotism and loyalty that prevailed at that time and is a part of the history of Gibson county. Quoting from the address referred to:

"In this congregation, if there was any lack of loyalty or patriotism inherited from the fathers this lack was more than supplied by the precept and example of the pastor. No man of his time was more loyal to his country, or more devoted to his country's honor and integrity than was Rev. John McMaster. \* \* \* He was fearless in denouncing slavery as an evil, which he, with others, believed to be a menace to the national life. \* \* \*

"In this community, as in many others, there was a divided sentiment as to the right of slavery, and there were many who advocated the right of this institution. Indeed, it required courage and boldness for one to take a stand in opposition to slavery, and there were not many who cared to take that unpopular stand.

"Among those who had the courage of their convictions on that ques-

tion were the Covenanters, most of whom had left their homes in the South because of slavery's blighting influence. The man who was in the forefront and the leader of those in opposition was the pastor, Rev. John McMaster.

"With prophetic eye, Doctor McMaster could see the impending judgment that must come upon a nation because of the evil of slavery, and most earnestly did he pray in his pulpit that threatened war might be averted. In public addresses he pleaded for righteousness and peace, and hesitated not to denounce the wrong. Because of his boldness he was bitterly denounced by the apologists for slavery, and on one occasion he and Dr. Andrew Lewis, another prominent citizen of Princeton, of like sentiment, were assaulted with rotten eggs while making what was called an abolition speech in Owensville, this county.

"While Doctor McMaster prayed earnestly that the war might be averted, yet, when war came, by the rebellious acts of those who would perpetuate slavery, he himself became a man for war. He gave his voice and strong influence on the side of those who would suppress rebellion by force of arms. He encouraged the young men of his congregation, and of the community, to enlist, and expressed a willingness himself to enlist.

"How vividly we call to mind (says the writer of this sketch) that day when the news came that Fort Sumter had been fired upon, and later when the lightning flashed the news of surrender and the lowering of the flag. The people of this community, as all over the nation, were thrilled as by an electric shock. How well do I remember, as a boy, that first Sabbath after the fall of Sumter. We all came to church as usual, but there was more than usual in the impressive solemnity of the congregation that day. Doctor McMaster began his service as he always did, without variation. This introduction to the service always seemed solemn and impressive, but, it appeared to me, was more than usually impressive that day, when he said 'Let us, with reverence, compose our minds for the public worship of the Lord our God. Let us unite in seeking His presence and blessing by prayer.' Was there ever greater need to 'compose ourselves'? Was there ever greater need to seek 'His presence and blessing'?

"I do not remember his text on that occasion. I only remember that it was appropriate and that his sermon was deeply impressive, and how earnestly he prayed for his country, now trembling in the balance.

"In the midst of the afternoon service that day a sound of the fife and drum was heard. The sound came from the courthouse yard, where a company of men were being enlisted in response to Governor Morton's first call for volunteers. Will anyone who heard that fife and drum ever forget its

thrilling effect? It was an unusual sound for Princeton, on a quiet Sabbath afternoon. It brought to that worshiping congregation a realization of the serious condition threatening our nation—a foretaste of the tragedy of war that was to follow. To me, as a country boy, the sound of martial music was somewhat of a novelty at that time, but I had abundant opportunity to become familiar with it a short time afterward.

"The first man in Gibson county to enlist for the defense of his country's flag was from this congregation, Dr. Samuel E. Munford. He enlisted as a private in a company that was afterward known as Company H, Seventeenth Indiana Volunteers. On the organization of the regiment he was made assistant surgeon and later promoted to surgeon, and later medical director of the Wilder Brigade."

In an historical address by Doctor McMaster, on the occasion of his twenty-fifth anniversary as pastor of the congregation, in June, 1871, he gave an account of the war record of his congregation, of which the following is an extract:

"At the call of their country sixty-four persons in full communion, or baptized members belonging to this congregation, volunteered in her armies and fought, and some of them died, for their country. In some instances two, three and four went from one family. In one case, a father and his two sons enlisted. Two sons of the pastor went out, one of them in his seventeenth year. These, with many others, re-enlisted as veterans and were with Sherman on his march to the sea.

"There were no skulkers, no deserters among them. There were none who, being armed, turned back in the day of battle. As they rallied around and fought for the 'Red, White and Blue flag' of their country, they proved themselves the true successors of those who fought and died so bravely under the blue flag of the Covenanters in the hills and valleys of Scotland.

"Of the sixty-four who went forth, at the close of their service, two held the position of medical director, two were captains, two were quartermasters, two were first lieutenants, two second lieutenants, one hospital steward, one sergeant major, three sergeants, eight corporals and the remainder served their country as privates and all served it well. Of the number enlisted, sixteen died in the service, one-fourth of the whole number. Eight died on the battle field or of wounds received in battle. The others died of various diseases contracted in the service.

"These sixteen included some of our best men, men whose Christian character was established and also some of the most promising youths of the congregation."

In the annals of this congregation during the century of its existence, there is no more creditable record than its war history. Of those who gave up their lives for their country, it may be said no better soldiers ever girded on the armor, no truer patriots ever lived.

#### BAPTIST CHURCHES.

Different branches of this denomination have long existed in Gibson county. The Regular Baptists date back to 1808, when Rev. Stephen Strickland came from Kentucky to Indiana, settling near Princeton. He was the pioneer Baptist preacher of this county and, like John the Baptist, went ahead and paved the way for those who should come after him in preaching baptism.

The Patoka Baptist church was organized about 1810 by Rev. William Hanks. Pigeon church, near Princeton, was organized in 1811, by Rev. Strickland, but later was dissolved. The next congregation was the Salem church, at Owensville, constituted by Elders William Hanks and James Mootry. A church was soon built near Owensville, and in 1840 the society was moved into Owensville, where a frame church was erected. Providence church, eleven miles southeast of Princeton, was formed in 1822. New Salem church was organized twelve miles north of Princeton in 1838. Other Baptist churches, here and there over the county, were soon organized.

What is known as the General Baptist church had its origin in Gibson county in 1829, when Elder Jacob Speer came to Princeton from Tennessee. He organized the church of Baptists in 1830. Later, in 1831, this united with the Liberty Association of General Baptists, and Elder Speer continued to preach to his chosen flock. The other flourishing Baptist churches in the county, of this faction, were formed at Owensville, Columbia, Fort Branch, Hazelton, New Liberty, at Francisco, and one at Oakland City.

The First General Baptist church was organized in Oakland in 1853. The church building was built in 1894, and cost fifteen thousand dollars. This amount includes the recent additions, among them the pipe organ, which cost one thousand two hundred dollars. There are one hundred and sixty-four members at present, and Rev. Frank S. Hartley has charge.

There is a Primitive Baptist church at Fort Branch; also a General church.

The Primitive Baptist church of Owensville was organized in the early sixties, and has had a steady growth since. There are at present one hundred and thirty members. Rev. Clayton has charge of the church. The present church building was erected in 1906, and cost ten thousand dollars.

The Missionary Baptists have an organization and a fine church at Princeton, and up to two years ago had a society at Oakland City, but this has been dissolved. At Princeton the church was formed in 1894 and now has a membership of one hundred and thirty. The church property is valued at eight thousand dollars. The church building is located on the corner of Prince and Water streets and was dedicated in 1902.

#### THE FRANCISCO CHURCH OF GENERAL BAPTISTS.

This was first organized at Old Bethesda church, two and one-half miles northwest of Francisco, Indiana. Bethesda, one of the oldest churches in the eastern part of the county, was built in the year 1834. The timbers for the frame work were split and hewn from the trees of the forest, and the work was done by the labor of the surrounding neighborhood. After completion, the house was used by the different church organizations for preaching services, and the Methodist Episcopal congregation of Francisco was first located there, and later removed to Francisco about 1856 or 1857.

The United Brethren also had an organization there during the sixties, but did not seem to have much success and went down.

The house was still used for preaching and school until about December, 1875, when it was destroyed by fire.

In May, 1874, after a series of meetings held at the old church by Rev. T. B. McCormick, Rev. Jacob Scammahorn and Rev. F. M. Kerr, there was organized by Revs. Jacob Speer and F. M. Kerr a church, under the name of New Liberty church of General Baptists. The following named persons were enrolled as charter members: William J. Blythe, Eliza E. Blythe, William Lowe, Mary A. Lowe, James H. Lowe, Rosa Lowe, Daniel Kenerly, Artimesa Kenerly, and Joseph Douglass, none of whom are now living except Rosa (Lowe) Yeager.

Upon the completion of the organization, Rev. Kerr was chosen pastor, James H. Lowe as clerk, and they still held services there until the fall of 1875, and added a number of members to the church.

About November, 1875, through the kindness of the Methodists at Francisco, Indiana, the Baptist organization was removed to their church, where meetings were held for the next seven years, when they built a house of their own.

Commencing in January, 1876, there was held a protracted meeting at Francisco, which lasted several weeks and had quite an increase in mem-

hershship. And during that time and afterwards there was a number of accessions from the Rev. Sands' followers of Old Providence Regular Baptist church, which increased the roll of members up to sixty to that time.

Rev. Kerr, having served as pastor to September, 1876, was succeeded by Elder Jacob Speer for two years. There being a vacancy in the office of clerk, by the death of James H. Lowe, September 28, 1876, John Marvel was chosen and served two years.

In September, 1878, Rev. William Clark was chosen pastor, N. S. Meade, clerk, and in 1879 Elder Clark was re-elected, and W. J. Blythe, clerk.

In October, 1879, having effected a consolidation with Pleasant Hill church (at Mitchell school house), a committee was appointed to raise funds and make the necessary arrangements for building a house, viz: J. S. Meade, Martin Meade, Nathaniel Martin, J. W. Blythe and S. R. Davis, and to be co-workers, with the following trustees: J. S. Meade, J. M. Gentry, N. Martin and Martin Meade, who, through their untiring efforts and the assistance of many friends in and out of the church, their work was crowned with success. There was dedicated a good substantial building on Main street in Francisco, on the 2d day of January, 1882, Rev. William Clark being pastor, and assisted by Rev. T. M. Strain, who managed the finances, and W. P. Hall, who preached the dedicatory sermon.

Meetings were then continued for some time, a number were added to the church, making the church roll one hundred and thirty-two members, the highest, except Owensville, reported to the association held at Francisco that year.

In September, 1895, Rev. William Clark, having served as pastor for seven years and wishing to retire from the charge, Rev. William Chesser was chosen, and served for the next three years, and S. R. Davis was elected as clerk. During the pastorate of Rev. Chesser, the question came up as to organ, or no organ, which caused some warm discussions. The question was finally decided in favor of having an organ in the church, but this caused a loss of several members.

From the expiration of the pastorate of Rev. Chesser, in 1888, the church had as pastors Elders T. M. Strain, Rev. T. A. H. Laslie, F. M. Kerr, G. W. Hogan, William Clark and Josephus Lee, each one year; J. R. Edwards, A. D. Baker and W. E. Willis, each two years; Raymond Selby, J. P. Turner, each one year; I. J. Turner, three years; J. W. Johnson, one year; L. W. Spann, A. D. Baker, two years. From October, 1887, the following served as clerks: N. Martin, two years; S. R. Davis, six years; J. M.



McGee, T. M. Wells, each two years; Ethel Lanphar, two years; F. N. Westfall, seven years; Alice Stormont, two years; Flossie Goldman, three years.

On April 29, 1909, the church was badly wrecked by storm, the south end of the roof and cupola, and the east side of the roof being blown off, and a short time thereafter the north end was badly wrecked by lightning. But in the next seven months the church was completely remodeled, inside and out, an additional room, twenty by thirty feet was added, a roomy basement and hot air furnace placed under the building, at an approximate cost of three thousand dollars. It was re-dedicated on the 29th day of November, 1909, the pastor, L. W. Spann, being assisted by Rev. J. R. Edwards, managing the finances, and Rev. W. P. Deering, who preached the dedicatory sermon.

The church was organized as New Liberty church of General Baptists, having meetings once a month, but about the year 1905 the name was changed to Francisco church of General Baptists and have services twice a month and pay the pastor two hundred and fifty dollars per year.

There is a Ladies' Aid Society, a Christian Endeavor, and a Sabbath school with an enrollment of one hundred scholars and an average attendance of seventy, Ralph Goldman, superintendent, and Mary Drysdale, secretary.

There is an enrollment of ninety members at this time in the church. There are nine members whose combined ages is six hundred and seventy-eight years, viz: J. S. Meade, eighty-six; Martin Meade, eighty; Mahala Meade, seventy-seven; Elvira Gentry, seventy-seven; Louisa Martin, seventy-three; S. R. Davis, seventy-three; Fannie McKedy, seventy-two; William Virden, seventy; F. N. Westfall, seventy. The deacons are J. S. Meade, J. H. Loveless, F. S. Reavis, M. D. King, and J. M. Stormont. Rev. W. T. Winstead is the present pastor and Ralph Goldman is clerk.

#### GENERAL BAPTISTS OF THE PIONEER DAY.

By W. M. Cockrum.

The first recollection that I have of seeing a religious congregation, and of hearing a sermon preached, was about 1842, when Uncle Jacob Speer stood in the door of one of my father's log cabins and preached to the people assembled before him in the yard. The same log cabin now stands in my yard—a well preserved old log building. There were but few preachers in this section at that time and but few sermons were preached.

In the early fifties the General Baptists organized Keg Creek church at

an old schoolhouse one mile south of where Oakland City now stands, with ten members. Uncle Jacob Speer and William Reavis preached alternately to that little church, monthly, for several years. In 1856 the church was reorganized and moved into the little village where my father had built a good, substantial church building. This was occupied until the brick building which is now used took the place of it, and since the reorganization it has been known as the Oakland City General Baptist church.

Some may wish to know why the little stream for which the church was named was called Keg creek. The creek was named from an incident that happened to a corps of surveyors who in 1804 were surveying the land ceded by the Pian-Ka-Shaw Indians that year to the United States. This surveying corps had three pack-horses on which they transported their cooking outfit, together with their surveying outfit and two twenty-gallon kegs of Kentucky whiskey. They had a camp near the little creek, and one day a large hunting party of Indians came into the camp. The surveyors felt that it would be dangerous for the Indians to find the whiskey, so they buried the two kegs in different places in the creek near the camp; and after the Indians were gone they could find but one keg, as the parties who buried the whiskey were probably drunk while they were hiding the kegs from the Indians. Thus they named the creek Keg creek. One of these kegs was found forty years afterward. This was the same surveying corps that, a few weeks later, was working near Foote's pond, where young Ziba Cook was drowned.

The General Baptist denomination has had and does still have many true and noble men upholding the Cross, and adding greatly to the Christian cause; but none of them have done more than Uncle Jacob Speer, who stood on Zion's wall for more than fifty years proclaiming the glad tidings of the Saviour's love to all mankind. Today, whilst your large assembly is holding their meeting in your beautiful church building, Uncle Jacob Speer is making music in Paradise, surrounded by a mighty host of those who under his preaching were adopted into the Christian family.

There is but little question that the Primitive Baptists were the first to hold religious services in what is now Gibson county. They had some able ministers, among whom were Reverends John Tegue, Stephen Strickland, Alexander Devin, William Hanks, James Mootree, James Strickland, Joel Hume, and many others who occupied the field at that early date in southern Indiana.

Up on Blue River these Baptists at one of their churches had a great revival and seventy-five joined the church and there was that number to be

baptized at the May meeting. The church was located not far from the Ohio river. These people decided that they would hold their baptismal meeting at a famous place for such purpose on that river. The health of the resident minister was not good, so the congregation had him secure the services of Elder B——, who was a strong, sturdy man and had a voice in singing that could be heard a mile away. He had a record of having baptized two thousand people during his ministry.

The day for the great meeting was at hand and ten thousand people were assembled on the beautiful shore of the LaBelle river. The weather was warm. The candidates for baptism were all in a body near a point where the immersion was to take place. The men were all in their shirt sleeves. There were three or four newspaper reporters from Louisville and other nearby cities who were there present and ready to get reports of the wonderful gathering. The elder who was to do the work was on hands and ready to commence, wading out into the water, singing a favorite old hymn used on such occasions:

“Come, Holy Spirit, Dove divine,  
On these baptismal waters shine,  
And teach our hearts, in highest strain  
To praise the Lamb for sinners slain.”

Locating the point that was of the right depth for the work in hand, he stuck his staff down to indicate where to bring the candidates, then commenced the work, baptizing one a minute, singing the rest of the old hymn and others suited to the occasion, as he led the candidates in and returned them to the shore. As I said before, the crowd was immense, the weather was warm, and many were in their shirt sleeves.

A small young man whom John D. Prentice had sent there to report for the *Louisville Journal*, in his zeal to make a note of everything that was done, had gotten down to the edge of the water and amongst the candidates, who were so compact that he could not readily get out of the jam. Unfortunately for him, he had an impediment in his speech. In other words, he was one of the most stuttering unfortunates. At times it would take him two or three minutes to say the most simple word. The minister was leading the candidates in, singing as he went, baptizing and returning them to the shore.

Finally he came to where the young reporter stood, took him by the arm and started into the water, singing as loud as he could. The young reporter

tried to pull back. Then the preacher turned and said: "Never fear, young man, the water is not deep," and kept leading him on. The young man was all the time saying—

"Yi-yi-yi-yi—"

The preacher told him not to be scared, that the bottom was good and there was not the least danger. Getting in to where the water was deep the preacher had no difficulty in leading the resisting youth to the proper place, when he said the ceremony and put him under, head and ears! When the stuttering fellow's face and head struck the water it seemed to have loosed his tongue. Spurting the water out of his mouth, he said: "Sir, I am a-a-a-a r-r-r-reporter and a-a-a-a M-M-Meth-Meth-Methodist!" The preacher replied: "That's all right, young man, you are not hurt in the least; but you are thoroughly baptized all the same."

#### CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

The Christian church was organized in Princeton, April 7, 1889, at a meeting of the members held in what was then known as Old Temperance hall on West State street. Temperance hall stood where the Agar building now stands and at the time of the organization of the church was occupied in part by a printing office run by James McCormick, who was then editing the *Prohibition Era*.

The late Mrs. Laura J. Baker and Mrs. E. D. McCurdy were instrumental in bringing about the organization. Mrs. McCurdy wrote the state department of the church with reference to perfecting an organization here and, in response to her letter, Rev. J. T. Ewing, then state evangelist, was sent to conduct a meeting, which resulted in sixty-four members uniting and these became the charter members of the church.

Meetings were held in Temperance hall for a short time until Jessup's hall, corner Main and Broadway, was secured as a meeting place. Rev. J. T. Purvis was called as pastor of the congregation and in October, 1889, a deal was consummated whereby the congregation purchased from the Reformed Presbyterian people the church building in East Water street. This building was occupied by the congregation until December, 1910, when they purchased the church property at Broadway and Prince streets, formerly owned by the Cumberland Presbyterians. The price paid for the building was six thousand dollars. The building is modern, is equipped with a pipe organ that cost two thousand dollars at time of installation, and has a heating plant. The present membership numbers two hundred and seventy-five

and Rev. Rome G. Jones, formerly of Anderson, Indiana, is the present pastor.

There are four other congregations of the Christian church in the county, at Owensville, Oakland City, Old Union, near Poseyville, and Nauvoo church, south of Princeton. The approximate membership of each is: Owensville, one hundred and fifty-seven; Old Union, four hundred; Nauvoo, fifty, and Oakland City, sixty members. The congregation at Oakland City was organized five years prior to the Princeton congregation.

The Christian church of Owensville was organized about 1850, and today has a membership of one hundred and fifty-seven. J. A. Persinger took charge of the church on June 14, 1913. In 1905 the church building was erected at a cost of three thousand dollars.

#### CATHOLIC CHURCHES.

The oldest congregation of the Catholic denomination in Gibson county is that of St. James. Father Czackart, a Redemptorist, from Illinois, is the first priest known to have visited this congregation. He celebrated holy mass in the house of F. X. Weis in 1836. He continued to visit during 1837. Rev. A. Deydier, of Evansville, next ministered to the congregation until 1840. From the 9th of April, 1840, until May, 1842, Rev. Roman Weinzoepfel, of Evansville, had charge. From October, 1842, until the latter part of 1845 the mission was in charge of Rev. Conrad Schniederjans, who lived at St. Wendel. During his time a log church, thirty-five by twenty-five feet, was erected, but the bishop refused to hold services therein until he had a deed to the property. This was effected on the return of Father Weinzoepfel in April, 1846, and the chapel was blessed on July 25, 1847. Bishop Bazin authorized the pastor to rent the seats in the chapel, but the action so incensed the people that they broke into the church on the night of January 23, 1848, and destroyed the pews. Father Weinzoepfel was brought into court for breaking the Sabbath, and the bishop interdicted the church. On July 25, 1850, the ordinary harmony was restored in St. James.

In the month of March, 1855, Rev. F. W. Pepersack was appointed resident priest. On July 25, 1855, the corner stone of the new church was laid. The church, of Roman architecture, was completed that year, also a commodious parsonage. Father Pepersack remained until June, 1866. Rev. M. Ficker came next, and he died July 18, 1868. The Benedictine Fathers had charge until September, and then Rev. J. B. H. Sceepe became pastor until the spring of 1875. He was removed on account of poor health.

and the Benedictine Fathers again took charge. On July 12, 1875, Rev. J. J. Merckl took charge, and in his time added a sacristy, repaired the parsonage, and otherwise improved the property. He also built the church at Haubstadt.

#### CATHOLIC CHURCH AT HAUBSTADT.

Prior to 1866 the Catholics at Haubstadt belonged to the St. James congregation. In this year a frame school house was built at Haubstadt, in 1867 a frame dwelling was built, and ten years later the church, under direction of Father Merckl. Rev. George Widerin was the first resident priest, coming on July 12, 1877. The next pastor was Rev. Bernard Ewers. The church cost twelve thousand dollars, and there is a beautiful frame parsonage adjoining. A large building for a parochial school is also kept. Other pastors have been Revs. Ewers, Zoglmann and Seter.

St. Bernard's church is situated about ten miles southeast of Princeton. The members were formerly a part of the St. James congregation. The church is a mission, and is attended either from Princeton or Haubstadt.

St. Joseph's church at Princeton was built in the year 1866 by Rev. F. W. Pepersack. Up to this time Princeton Catholics were members of St. James. Until his death on July 18, 1868, Rev. M. Ficker visited St. Joseph's. Rev. Henry Hug attended until 1868, and Rev. J. B. H. Seepe paid visits until the spring of 1875. Rev. J. J. Merckl also came until the next year. In 1876 Princeton received its first resident pastor, Rev. Alexander Koesters. On his arrival a parsonage was built. Rev. George Widerin, pastor of Haubstadt, had charge from July 15, 1877, to February, 1878. Rev. B. H. Kintriep, the second resident priest, was here from March 3rd to November 3, 1878. Father Widerin attended until 1879, when Rev. A. Oster came from Vincennes until February, 1880. Rev. John Joseph Macke also attended. Rev. Celestine Schwarz was the third resident priest, from December 7, 1880, until June, 1882. The next pastor was Rev. Augustine Peckskamp, who was appointed August 10, 1882. Then followed Revs. Peter Hommers, E. B. Ledvina, William A. Jochum and present pastor, Rev. Nicholas Hassel, who came in June, 1912.

The present membership of this congregation is two hundred and seventy-five. There is a fine parochial school in conjunction with this church. It now has an enrollment of about one hundred pupils.

## THE EVANGELICAL CHURCH.

The following is from the pen of Rev. R. Mueller (of the Johnson township Evangelical church), written in 1884:

This congregation was formed during the latter part of the decade of 1840, or the beginning of 1850, and from a small beginning the growth has been gradual and healthy. The first pastor was Rev. Weil, of the Lutheran synod; he served them about one year. After he left he established a Lutheran church at Hahnville, to which about one-third of the congregation followed him; the remainder comprised about thirty members. A new preacher, Rev. Adams, was called and served about one year; his successor was Rev. Schrenk, who lived in Darmstadt and preached here once in two weeks. This was prior to 1856, from which year all meetings and records were kept in the regular record book. In 1856 Rev. Buhler devised rules and by-laws for the congregation, which were accepted. The old church could not accommodate the meetings and during the year 1865 a new edifice was built and Rev. Gulbue was called into this pastoral charge. The congregation joined the Evangelical Union of the West. The present name of this ecclesiastical body is the Evangelical Synod of North America. From 1869 to April, 1884, Rev. J. G. Rausch administered to this congregation. The congregation is the possessor of a new, commodious church and pipe organ. The old church is kept in good repair and used as a parochial school. It is located in Johnson township. Since 1854 there have been baptized in this church four hundred and two children and two hundred and seven confirmed.

The Evangelical St. Peter's church was organized in the early fifties. Being the only church home available to the German immigrants who settled in and about Princeton, there were included within its fold members of all the different branches of the Lutheran church, and as a result the church was known as Lutheran, now as Reformed Lutheran, and again as Evangelical Lutheran, etc. Since 1879 the church has been Evangelical. For many years it remained an independent congregation. During the pastorate of the Rev. William F. Mehl, the congregation was received into the membership of the Indiana district conference of the Evangelical synod of America.

In 1858 the church bought of the First Reformed Presbyterian church the lot now occupied by the Christian church at the corner of Broadway and Prince streets, and in 1873 exchanged this property for the property of the Cumberland Presbyterian church on east Emerson street. The brick building

was subsequently torn down and the present church house and parsonage erected upon the site.

Owing to the fact that Princeton is not a German town the congregation has never been a large and powerful one. In the past it has sought only to give a church home to German immigrants, and the only language used in the church service until recent years was German. Both English and German have been used in the church services since the pastorate of the Rev. Mr. Mehl.

The present membership numbers fifty-six. The Sunday school has an enrollment of thirty-five. The congregation has no regular pastor at present. The board of elders are William Toelle, president; H. H. Niekamp, vice-president; Philip Leaser, secretary, and John Portenheimer, treasurer.

#### THE COLORED CHURCHES OF PRINCETON.

About Civil-war time the colored people of the Methodist Episcopal faith organized a church at Princeton and are still a separate society but under the control of the regular Methodist church. Afterwards what is known as the African Methodist Episcopal church was formed here and both are doing good work among their people, and have each a church building and prospering. The former is on Seminary street, while the other is on Prince street.

The colored Baptist church at Princeton, styled Olive Branch Baptist church, was organized right after the close of the Civil war. At first they worshipped in an old shed, until such time in 1871 as they came to be able to build their present frame church, at No. 712 Broadway, which is ample for the congregation. The present membership is one hundred and eighty, about four-fifths of whom reside in the city and the remainder in the surrounding country. The present pastor, Rev. W. E. Clark, came from Kentucky about one year ago, succeeding Rev. Waddell, who died here.

This denomination also has a strong church at Oakland City, this county.

#### OTHER SOCIETIES.

At Princeton are also the societies of Advents, Christian Science, Episcopal, Salvation Army, etc., each doing religious work in their own peculiar manner. The United Brethren church at Oakland City has a membership of one hundred and fifty, and is now in charge of Rev. J. W. Settle. The



church was built about 1883, of frame, and cost one thousand five hundred dollars. The society was formed in the early fifties. There is also a colored church known as the Church of Christ, at Patoka, with a membership of thirty-five; Hester Gear is present pastor.

## CHAPTER XII.

### MEDICAL MEN OF THE COUNTY.

It is to be regretted that no more comprehensive data can be secured for this chapter. We are indebted to that respected old veteran, Dr. W. W. Blair, of Princeton, who is still in active practice, in his eighty-seventh year, for the following sketch of the earlier physicians of Gibson county:

"When I began the practice of medicine in Princeton, May 15, 1850, it would have been an easy matter to have gathered up the history of every man who had practiced medicine from 1805 on up to that date, but we had little thought then that a time would come when the history of those early days would be so much sought after; the work immediately before us occupied our every effort. Many of the 'first settlers' were then still living.

"In a brief paper furnished Dr. G. W. H. Kemper, of Muncie, Indiana, for his 'Medical History of Indiana,' the most elaborate work of the kind ever published in the state, I supplied the following items:

"Fifty or sixty years ago it would have been easier to have gathered information regarding the history of Gibson county than at the present day, for at that time there were quite a number of the first settlers of this county who could have given the names of all who had been practitioners in this vicinity, from about the year 1805.

"Among the pioneers there were two women who were perhaps as well known in the obstetric line as any two persons in the county. Mrs. John Severns, who with her husband settled on Patoka river three miles northeast of Princeton, when this country was mostly inhabited by Indians and wild animals, was the first practicing mid-wife. I have often talked with her daughter, Mrs. William Leathers,—who was born, lived and died on the same spot of ground,—about her mother's early experience.

"There were neither bridges nor ferries on the Patoka river and when 'Old Granny Severns,' as she was familiarly known, had a call to the other side of the river, should it be too deep to 'ford'—she would mount her horse and 'swim' the river, no matter what the temperature or condition of the stream. She continued her work up to the time of her death, which occurred, perhaps, between the years 1835 and 1840.

"The other mid-wife was Mrs. John Kell, who settled here in 1816. Just how soon she began her work in that line I am unable to say, but it was at a very early day and she continued for a number of years after I came to Princeton—indeed until the feebleness of age laid her aside. She died in either 1857 or 1858.

"For a few years after white people began to settle in this locality, there is no record accessible of any physician having located here, Vincennes, twenty-seven miles north, being the nearest point where medical assistance could be obtained.

"Doctors Casey, Charles Fullerton and Robert Stockwell were among the earliest practitioners to locate in this county. A few years later Doctors Maddox and Kell were added to the number, but there is no available history as to the exact time of their locating.

"Dr. William Curl, a graduate of the University of Virginia, was the first medical graduate to practice in Gibson county, having settled in Princeton in 1832. He died in March, 1842, from pneumonia, at the age of thirty-nine years.

"Dr. J. J. Pennington (1805-1897) was practicing here in 1850, but how long before that time I am unable to say. He remained until about 1865.

"Dr. George B. Graff, educated in Baltimore, settled here in 1843 and removed to Omaha, Nebraska, about 1862. He died about 1895.

"Dr. James C. Patten graduated at Evansville and began practice in this county in 1849. He died in 1903. He served as assistant surgeon of the Fifty-eighth Indiana Regiment, during Sherman's march to the sea. The physicians living in Gibson county when I came here were as follows: [Doctor Blair came here in 1850 and has been in constant practice either here or as a surgeon of the Union army, in the Fifty-eighth Indiana Regiment, ever since, he now being eighty-seven years of age.—Ed.]

"In Princeton—Drs. H. H. Patten; J. J. Pennington, born 1805, died 1897; W. W. Walling, George B. Graff and myself.

"In Owensville—Drs. Fullerton and Cook.

"In Patoka—Dr. J. C. Patten, there being then no other towns in the county.

"In the country—There were, Dr. Day, a short distance east of where Fort Branch is now located, and Dr. McCullough, near where Oakland City is.

"All of our work was done on horseback and the trips long. We went

west to the Wabash, nearly to Owensville, two miles south of Fort Branch, two or three miles beyond Providence church, the same distance beyond Somerville, and Oakland City; three or four miles beyond Kirk's Mill, all around Union, Buena Vista and Hazelton, and all over the 'neck' in Knox county. Daily visits were then never thought of; once or twice a week was the limit. But still people recovered from attacks of sickness, then as now.

"No greater advancement has been made in any line in the past sixty years than in the preparation of medicines. Then each physician bought the crude drugs and made his own preparations, many of them not very palatable. Today the pharmacist does all that work and in a much more scientific manner, for which the patient has great reason for thankfulness. Many remedies entirely unknown sixty years ago are today in constant use."

#### OTHER PHYSICIANS.

From Tarrt's "History of Gibson County," published in 1884, the following account of physicians may be seen on page 162:

In Princeton—Dr. Thomas Polk, who located in Princeton in December, 1814, was the first resident physician. Dr. Joel Casey came here in 1816, remaining until his death in 1828. He was a good doctor and a gentleman and a greatly esteemed man in the community. Dr. Fullerton settled here about 1825, and resided and practiced in this county until his death in the late seventies or early eighties. Dr. Walters, a physician and merchant, and Dr. Thompson came in a little later. Drs. Robert Stockwell, John Kell, Bruce, Pennington, Curl, Walling, H. H. Patten, J. C. Patten, A. Lewis and Dr. Graff were all prominent physicians in early days. The physicians practicing in Princeton in 1884 were W. W. Blair, V. T. West, W. G. Kidd, Samuel E. Munford, J. S. Shoptaugh, D. G. Powell, L. H. Staples, J. A. Malone, A. R. Burton, F. H. Maxan, John Ward, Frank Blair, George C. Kendall, W. H. Maghee and O. L. Hudson.

At Owensville—In 1884 the physicians named were T. J. Montgomery, D. M. Shoemaker and J. M. Williams.

At Egg Harbor—Dr. J. N. Neely.

In Barton Township—The first physician to locate was Dr. George Austin, who came in the fall of 1823. Before that time there were no physicians nearer than Princeton. The pioneers were a hardy set of people and only called a physician when some bad ailment attacked them.

At Oakland City—In 1884 the physicians were Drs. W. J. McGowan,

W. L. Leister, T. M. Brown, George C. Mason, W. H. Stewart, J. W. McGowan.

At Fort Branch—Here the early doctors were Dr. William R. Genung in 1859; he was followed by Drs. Hamilton and John W. Runcie.

At Haubstadt—In 1884 the physicians were Drs. George A. Thomas, Peter Ottman and John Ballard.

At Warrenton—The early physicians were Dr. V. H. Marchland, Sr., Dr. William L. Littlepage, both of whom died before 1884. In 1884 the doctors were G. C. Littlepage and Victor H. Marchland.

Coming down to 1897, it is found that these comprised nearly a full list of physicians in Gibson county: R. S. Anderson, A. R. Burton, Hiram Burton, John Ballard, W. W. Blair, Frank Blair, Thomas M. Brown, R. A. Benson, George B. Beresford, John I. Clark, W. B. Duncan, Oscar F. Davis, George T. Dorsey, E. E. Eads, W. W. French, J. F. Gudgel, W. R. Genung, Oliver L. Hudson, John F. Howard, Royal G. Higgin, W. G. Hopkins, John M. Ireland, William G. Kidd, G. C. Kendle, F. H. Maxam, T. J. Montgomery, Victor Marchland, Robert S. Mason, G. C. Mason, J. W. McGowan, W. J. McGowan, John S. Moreman, Claude M. McDonald, Frank Nelson, Calvin L. Null, James C. Patten, Isom H. Fitch, J. W. Runcie, D. P. Reavis, H. R. Rickets, L. B. Richie, J. L. Robinson, George Strickland, J. W. Shelton, S. H. Shoptaugh, William H. Stewart, Dr. Tarr, George A. Thomas, James Thomas, J. M. Williams, W. T. Williamson, A. C. Woodruff, J. P. Ward.

#### PHYSICIANS AT OWENSVILLE.

Through the thoughtfulness of the medical society, the following list of about every doctor who has ever practiced at the town of Owensville from pioneer days to this date has been furnished: Drs. Smith, 1825; Fullerton, 1830; Leshier, 1845; Neely, 1852; Mitchell, 1854; Cloud, 1818; T. J. Montgomery, 1869; Chandler, 1858; Neely, Jr., 1856; Thomas Sharp, Henry Wilson, B. F. Cook, Moore, 1863; Shoemaker, 1876; Smith, Jr., Hopkins, Richardson, dates unknown; Moore, 1892; Defoe, 1862; Goodwin, 1878; West, unknown date; Williams, 1880; Clark, 1889; P. B. Moore, 1897; Thomas, 1898; J. R. Montgomery, 1904; Emerson, 1898; Roe & Spencer, dates unknown; Beresford, 1892; Wiltshire, 1903; Woodruff, 1880; Malone, 1861; Goodwin, 1901; Graff, 1851; Downey, 1853; Wilborn, 1860; Fuller, 1854; Lockhart, 1900.

## MEDICAL SOCIETIES.

Prior to the Civil war period there was a medical society organized by the physicians of Gibson county, but it went down after a few years. No further attempt at maintaining such a society was had until some years after the war, when the present society was organized. The following is a transcript from the records of the present medical society of this county:

"Princeton, May 1, 1874--Pursuant to a call, a number of physicians of Gibson county met at the office of Dr. S. E. Munford for the purpose of organizing a county medical society.

"On motion, Dr. W. A. Downey was called to the chair and Dr. N. H. Church chosen secretary. On motion, a committee of four was appointed to report on a constitution, and the chair appointed Dr. S. E. Munford, Dr. West, Dr. W. G. Kidd and Dr. P. H. Curtner, which reported a constitution, which was adopted after having been read section by section, and the committee discharged.

"On motion, a committee was appointed to report on nomination of officers for the ensuing year and the following gentlemen were nominated and unanimously elected: For president, Dr. W. A. Downey; secretary, Dr. S. H. Shoptaugh; treasurer, Dr. W. G. Kidd; censors, Drs. Robert Moore, J. W. Runcie and E. J. Howard.

"On motion, a committee was appointed to prepare the constitution for recording and that the same be recorded at the recorder's office of Gibson county, and paid out of funds of the society.

"On motion, Doctors Runcie and Patten were requested to prepare papers to be read at the next monthly meeting. On motion of Doctor Munford, Doctor Patten was elected as an honorary member of the society.

"On motion of Dr. W. W. Blair, a committee of three was appointed to prepare the by-laws, consisting of Doctors Blair, Moore and Church.

"On motion the society adjourned to meet at Doctor Munford's office May 29, 1874.

(Signed)

"S. H. SHOPTAUGH, Secretary."

The society has been kept up ever since and holds its regular monthly meetings. The present officers are: W. G. Hopkins, president; A. L. Ziliak, secretary and treasurer. Through the courtesy of the secretary, the author

is enabled to give the following list of practicing physicians of Gibson county at this date (1914):

Alexander, H. H., Princeton.	Lindley, C. M., Princeton.
Anderson, R. S., Princeton.	Lockhart, T. L., Owensville.
Arthur, Hamilton M., Hazelton.	Loudin, Ernest B., Hazelton.
Arthur, Martin L., Patoka.	Marchland, Victor H., Haubstadt.
Arthur, Sylvester Irwin, Patoka.	Martin, Francis M., Loyd.
Ashby, W. B., Oakland City.	Mason, G. C., Oakland City.
Bass, Herschell Logan, Fort Branch.	Mason, Robert S., Oakland City.
Beresford, George B., Owensville.	Maxam, F. H., Princeton.
Blair, W. W., Princeton.	McGowan, G. W., Oakland City.
Brown, A. P., Princeton.	Miller, Charles Archer, Princeton.
Brazelton, O. T., Princeton.	Montgomery, James R., Owensville.
Burton, Albert R., Princeton.	Montgomery, James R., Owensville.
Camp, G. H., Oakland City.	Morris, J. L., Kings.
Critchfield, John S., Princeton.	Morris, William F., Fort Branch.
Cushman, Robert A., Princeton.	Null, Calvin Lawrence, Somerville.
Davis, William T., Patoka.	Parmenter, George H., Johnson.
Emerson, R. W., Owensville.	Petiean, J. W., Haubstadt.
French, W. W., Fort Branch.	Rhodes, Amos H., Princeton.
Genung, William R., Fort Branch.	Reavis, D. P., Buckskin.
Died January 1, 1914.	Smith, William H., Oakland City.
Goodwin, L. D., Mt. Carroll.	Squier, W. Cullen, Princeton.
Gudgel, Harry B., Hazelton.	Strickland, Karl Scott, Owensville.
Hollingsworth, M. P., Princeton.	Swan, Dudley H., Francisco.
Hopkins, William G., Fort Branch.	Torr, John W., Loyd.
Hudson, O. L., Princeton.	Williams, John M., Owensville.
Kendle, G. C., Princeton.	Ziliak, Alois L., Princeton.
Leister, William L., Oakland City.	

## CHAPTER XIII.

### THE BENCH AND THE BAR.

By Lucius C. Embree.

Indiana, during the early years of her statehood, was fortunate indeed in the selection of her judges. Almost an unbroken wilderness, her people immigrants and pioneers, toiling and struggling towards their conquest of the forest, living in daily apprehension of attack and murder, the young state selected for her supreme bench, and in most instances to preside over her inferior courts, men of courage and of marked learning and ability; and to this day, it is a source of pride to every intelligent citizen that the decisions of her supreme court, made during the first one-third of a century of her history as a state, are recognized among all english-speaking peoples as sound, learned and just.

The eight volumes of Blackford's Reports, containing the cases heard and determined between 1816 and 1848, command the highest respect wherever the common law of England is the basis of adjudication, and these volumes set forth the opinions of the earliest Indiana judges.

The first judges of the supreme court of Indiana were James Scott, John Johnson and Jesse L. Holman, men of sound learning and marked ability. Judge Johnson was a resident of Vincennes and his practice as a lawyer had brought him not infrequently into the courts of Gibson county. He was the owner of land in this county, near Patoka, and was well known to our people in his day. He was a learned lawyer and an upright judge and the people of Gibson county have been honored by his presence and service among them.

Judge Johnson died in 1817 and was succeeded in office by Isaac Blackford. Prior to his service on the supreme bench, Judge Blackford resided at Vincennes and served as judge of the southwestern circuit. He was the first judge of the Gibson circuit court, and it is needless to add that the office of judge of that court has never had a more worthy incumbent. His long service as a judge of the supreme court, his learning, his soundness of judgment, have made for him a name that is world wide.

The successor of Judge Blackford as judge of the circuit was David



Raymond, also of Vincennes, whose term of service extended from March, 1816, until August of the same year.

The next circuit judge was William Prince, a resident of Gibson county, and a man so much respected and honored by his fellow citizens that when, in pursuance of law, a seat of justice was established in the county, it was christened "Princeton" in his honor.

Judge Prince was a man of signal ability, but his service on the bench was short, extending only from August, 1816, until March, 1817. He held a number of important posts and, at the time of his death, was the representative of this district in Congress.

David Hart, a resident of Gibson county, and a man of integrity and ability, succeeded Judge Prince in the office of judge of the circuit, and he in turn was succeeded by Richard Daniel, also a resident of this county. Judge Daniel came to the bench in 1819, and served a little less than one year. He was highly honored by his fellow citizens and in his time played many parts, to the advantage of his neighbors and to his own renown and credit.

In 1820 James R. E. Goodlett became the judge of the circuit, and he continued in office until 1832. It appears that Judge Goodlett was a politician of considerable ability, and tradition has it that he maintained himself in office longer than was entirely good for the community. He is said to have been a man of strong and violent passions, vindictive and combative. His defeat was brought about by the lawyers of the circuit towards whom he had been unjust and disagreeable in his conduct upon the bench. It is related of Judge Goodlett that in 1834 his ill-will towards his successor in office was so extreme that during the progress of proceedings in court at Mt. Vernon he made a personal assault upon Judge Hall while on the bench.

Samuel Hall, the successor of Judge Goodlett, occupied the bench of the circuit until 1835. He was a sound lawyer and a just and able judge. He had come to Gibson county as a boy in 1814. His legal education was self acquired, and his success in life he owed solely to his own efforts, his uprightness of character and the soundness of his judgment. He served his county and the state in a number of responsible offices, and died at Princeton in 1862, in the full enjoyment of the well-earned respect and confidence of a large circle of acquaintances.

During a short time, in 1835, the judge of the circuit was Charles I. Battell. Judge Battell was a distinguished leader of the bar and was widely and favorably known as a practitioner in the courts of southwestern Indiana.

Judge Battell was succeeded in office by Elisha Embree, who presided

over the courts of the circuit for ten years. He was born in Lincoln county, Kentucky, and was brought to Indiana by his parents while a little boy in 1811. His father, Joshua Embree, died in 1813, leaving the mother and five children but scantily provided for and dependent upon their own exertions. The boyhood and youth of Judge Embree were spent in hard work, with little opportunity for schooling, but in some way he managed to acquire a fair education. He studied law with Judge Hall, became a successful practitioner at the bar, and was an able and popular judge.

Shortly before the end of the career of Judge Embree as judge, there came to Gibson county, on change of the venue from the Vanderburgh circuit court, a case that excited much notice and not a little popular ill-feeling. The title of the case was "State of Indiana v. Romain Weinzorpflin."

In this case the defendant was a priest of the Roman Catholic church. He was a native of France and came to America in company with the late Father Bessonies, of Indianapolis. He was charged by a grand jury of Vanderburgh county in three counts with rape, assault and battery and assault.

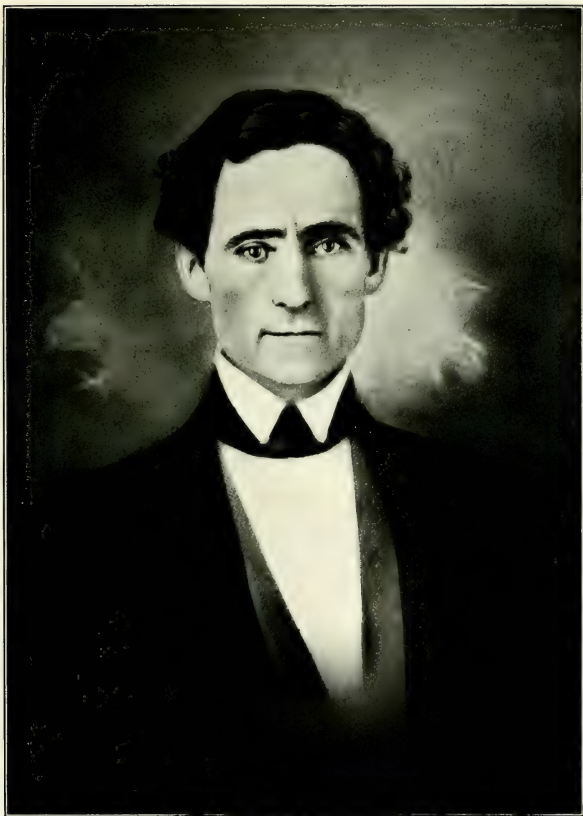
The trial began in the old courthouse at Princeton on the 5th day of March, 1844, and progressed until Saturday, the 9th day of the same month, when the jury returned a verdict of "guilty" upon the first count, and fixed the punishment of the defendant at imprisonment, at hard labor, for a term of five years.

Judge Embree was the presiding judge at this trial, and Alexander Trippet, Henry Ayres, David Milburn, Hudson Brown, John Ayres, Joseph P. McClure, Stephen Daugherty, James W. Maxam, John King, George Kendel, John Hyneman and John R. Campbell constituted the jury.

The writer has been told by James W. Maxam, one of the jurors, that during the trial a member of the jury became ill, and it began to be feared that there would be a mistrial. The sick juror lived in Princeton, and he came to the conclusion that he would be able to hold out if he could get away for one night and get a "good night's rest" in his own bed at home.

During the adjournments of the court, the jurors were kept together in a room in the old "Mansion House," a two-story frame building which stood upon the west side of the public square at the place now occupied by the store rooms owned by William D. Downey. The room was on the second floor, and was reached by means of a stairway on the outside of the building. At the top of the stairway the entrance was by a door which led into a small entry from which another door afforded entrance into the room. In this entry there was a closet.

It was the practice of the bailiff in charge of the jury to keep the door



JUDGE ELISHA EMBREE.



to the room locked, and to leave the outside door unlocked. When he would be called upon to carry water to the jury, he would enter the room, get the water bucket and depart leaving the door to the room unlocked, but locking the outside door. On his return he would deliver the water, lock the room and depart.

The jury devised a means of escape for the ill juror. They called upon the bailiff for fresh water after nightfall. While he was gone after the water the sick juror concealed himself in the closet in the entry and when the bailiff locked the room door and left the outside door unlocked, the man in the closet waited until he had gone, when he departed to his own bed.

Before daylight the sick juror was in the closet again and when the bailiff went for water again, leaving the door to the room unlocked, the juror returned to his brethren so much rested and refreshed that he was able to continue in service until the return of the verdict. The fact was never discovered; if it had been, the defendant would have been granted a new trial.

At the time of this conviction the sheriff of the county was Joseph J. Kirkman, and it became his duty to convey the prisoner to the state prison at Jeffersonville. There was no railroad service at the time, and Jeffersonville was reached by way of the Ohio river from Evansville.

It was anticipated that there would be an attempt at Evansville either to rescue or to mob the prisoner, but the sheriff was not a man to be intimidated. He armed himself and succeeded in holding the mob in such awe that no demonstration was made beyond the gathering of a crowd. It may be said in passing, that for an occasion of this sort the county of Gibson has never had an officer better adapted than was Joseph J. Kirkman. He was a man without fear.

The case of Romain Weinzorpfli was appealed to the supreme court, and the judgment of conviction was affirmed. *Weinzorpfli v. State*, 7 Blackf. 186. The opinion was delivered by Charles Dewey, probably the greatest judge that has ever graced the supreme bench of Indiana.

Notwithstanding the solemn verdict of the jury, however, and the affirmance of the judgment by the supreme court, it was not absolutely certain that the conviction was just. "But one witness swore positively to the perpetration by the defendant of the crime charged upon him," and this witness was the woman in the case. The subsequent history of the woman indicates that she might not have been entirely above reproach at the time of the alleged attack upon her.

The jury, however, was made up of honest men. They heard the evidence and saw the witnesses face to face, and if they erred, it may be taken

without doubt that they did so without intent. It was one of those cases in which the truth will never be known to men.

In 1847 Judge Embree was elected to the national House of Representatives for a term of two years. During his service at Washington he made the acquaintance of Elihu B. Washburn, Horace Greeley and Abraham Lincoln, and friendship continued between him and these distinguished men until the time of his death. In 1849 the Whig convention made him the nominee of that party for governor of the state of Indiana, but this nomination he declined. In the same year he was defeated in the race for re-election to Congress. Judge Embree died in 1863, respected by the people of southwestern Indiana, among whom he was widely known.

The successor of Judge Embree was James Lockhart, who served as judge of the circuit court until 1851. Judge Lockhart was a resident of Evansville, was a man highly honored by his fellow citizens and held many positions of trust and honor by their suffrage, among them that of representative in Congress.

From 1851 until 1854 Alvin P. Hovey, of Mt. Vernon, was the circuit judge. The long and distinguished life and public service of Judge Hovey have become a part of the history of the commonwealth and of the nation. As a lawyer, a judge, a legislator, an executive and a gallant soldier, the record of Gen. Alvin P. Hovey is one in which the people of the whole state have an interest and justifiable pride.

The bench of the circuit was distinguished, also, by the service thereon for two years of the late William E. Niblack. The residence of Judge Niblack was at Vincennes, but his public service was to the state of Indiana. He was for many years a member of the lower house of Congress, and during the later years of his life was one of the judges of the supreme court of Indiana.

In 1858 Ballard Smith became judge of the circuit upon the retirement from the office of Judge Niblack, but his service was for one year only.

Judge Smith was succeeded by Michael F. Burke, a native of Ireland, where he had received a classical education. He resided at Washington, Indiana, was a ripe lawyer and a competent judge. Judge Burke died in office and was succeeded in 1864 by John Baker, of Vincennes.

Judge Baker presided over the courts of the circuit for a full term of six years. He was a lawyer widely known throughout southern Indiana.

Judge Baker was succeeded by Newton F. Mallott, but his term of service as judge of the Gibson circuit court extended only from 1870 till 1873, when a change of the circuit placed Gibson county in another circuit.

Judge Mallott was a resident of Vincennes, and he remained upon the bench until his death, rendering service such as has been equaled but rarely since the judges of the courts in Indiana became elective by the people. He was one of the soundest lawyers in Indiana and, in addition to his learning and distinguished aptitude to judicial service, he was a man above reproach, in whose honesty and conscientiousness all that knew him placed entire reliance. He was a judge of the old school who believed that it was the province of the judge to apply the law to the facts and to do justice as the result of the application. It never occurred to Judge Mallott to act judicially otherwise than as the law commanded.

Upon the change in the circuit which removed Judge Mallott from the courts of Gibson county, the governor of the state appointed Oscar M. Welborn to the judgeship of the eleventh judicial circuit, comprised of the counties of Gibson, Pike and Dubois, and for a continuous period of thirty-six years Judge Welborn presided in the courts of the circuit with distinguished ability and to the entire satisfaction of his constituency. The characteristics of Judge Welborn as a judge, which marked him for success, were the absolute fairness of his judgments, the decorum of his own conduct and the conduct of the bar and court officers in pursuance of his requirement and example, and entire absence of every suspicion of either fear or favor as an impulse to his action.

From the time that Judge Welborn was elevated to the bench the business of the courts of the circuit increased in volume, and in difficulty and importance, at a steady and rapid rate, until after a time it was deemed proper by the General Assembly to make another change in the circuit by cutting off the counties of Pike and Dubois, and adding the county of Posey.

The augmentation of the business of the courts continued, but the industry and constancy of purpose of Judge Welborn enabled him to keep fairly apace with it, and at the end of his service the business was little in arrear.

Judge Welborn declined to stand for re-election in 1908, preferring to retire from public life, and at the end of his term, in 1909, he retired from the bench in possession of the absolute confidence and respect of the people of the circuit. Since his retirement he has devoted his attention to the management of his lands and to the practice of law.

Upon the retirement of Judge Welborn, the people of the circuit chose as his successor Herdis F. Clements, who served as judge of the Gibson circuit court until Gibson county was removed from the eleventh judicial circuit in 1913. Judge Clements is a resident of Mt. Vernon and he is still the judge of the eleventh circuit, which is now constituted of the county of Posey.

In 1913 the governor of Indiana appointed Simon L. Vandever, a sound and capable lawyer, to the judgeship of the new sixty-sixth judicial circuit, constituted of the county of Gibson, and Judge Vandever is still in service, rendering to the people efficient return for their confidence in him.

The judges that have presided over the courts of Gibson county in the past live in the history and in the traditions of our people and it is with pride and satisfaction that it is recalled that in their days and times they were an important element of our community. There are few counties that have been more fortunate in this respect than Gibson county has been, during the now closing first century of her existence. Let us hope that the future will deal with us no less favorably than the past has done.

The bar of Gibson county has been as distinguished as the bench, and many have been the contests of skill and eloquence in our temples of justice.

In the old days it was the custom of the lawyers of the circuit to follow the judge from court to court, and by reason of this fact the business of the courts was not conducted by local lawyers to the extent that it is now. Traveling from court to court upon horseback, carrying their libraries, consisting of Blackstone's Commentaries, Chitty on Pleadings, Starkie on Evidence and Tidd's Practice, in their saddle-bags, the bar, in company with the circuit judge, proceeded from county to county, each hoping for employment at each successive county seat. They made a congenial company and entertained one another on the way and at the taverns by jokes and stories, such as would be at the command of able and enlightened men isolated as these men were.

The court rooms during the sessions of the courts, plain and not at all commodious, presented a scene of life and interest. The tables were covered with books and the appearance was that there was at hand a considerable library, probably as many as sixty volumes. Upon examination of the titles of the volumes, however, it appeared that the library was made up largely of duplicates of the works above enumerated, which had been removed from the saddle-bags and deposited in the court room for use during the term.

The terms of court were held twice a year and they lasted usually less than one week. Reports of decisions were few and difficult of access and because of this the successful practitioner was required to draw his inspiration from the texts of the classics of the law, and to place his reliance upon first principles. The result of this was that arguments upon questions of law were more scientific than the usual presentations of the present day. They were built upon the history and the maxims of the law, and in them quickness of perception, soundness of judgment and ability to set forth in clear and intelligible language the reasons for the contention of the advocate, counted for



much. The bar generally was made up of men of education, who were students in the sense that they thought more than they read, and it is said that in those days the discussions in court of a question of law was usually profound and interesting.

The people were without books and newspapers and during court week it was their custom to gather at the county seat to listen to the proceedings in court, and when they left the court house and gathered together at their homes and at log-rollings, there were spirited discussions among them upon the relative merits of the lawyers to whom they had listened, and of their several contentions. Court week was a time of popular diversion.

Very able men have conducted causes in the courts of Gibson county. The voice and person of John Johnson were familiar to our people, as were also those of Charles Dewey. The early volumes of the reports of the decisions of the supreme court of Indiana are a monument to the learning and judicial perception of Charles Dewey. He was an educated lawyer and a judge that would have been not only an ornament but a pillar of strength to any court in christendom.

The late Judge Samuel Hall left among his papers a list of the early practitioners at the Gibson county bar. The date when this list was made is not definitely known, but probably about 1833. It is of historic interest and is here set out, as Judge Hall compiled it:

NAMES AND RESIDENCES OF LAWYERS PRACTICING IN 4TH CIRCUIT FROM 1816  
TO 1833.

Names	Residences.	Remarks.
John Johnson -----	Knox County	One of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Indiana—Dead.
Isaac Blackford -----	Vincennes.	One of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Indiana—now living in Indianapolis.
Charles Dewey -----	Charlestown.	One of the Judges of the Supreme Court—Yet living.
William Prince -----	Princeton -----	Dead
David Hart -----	Princeton -----	Dead
General W. Johnston -----	Princeton and Vincennes -----	Dead

Names.	Residences.	Remarks.
Richard Daniel	Princeton and Mt. Vernon	Dead
Reuben Kidder	Springfield, Posey County	Dead
Thomas F. Blake	Vincennes and Terre Haute	Dead
Nathaniel Huntington	Vincennes and Terre Haute	Dead
George R. G. Sullivan	Vincennes	Dead
Jacob Call	Vincennes	Dead
Judge Doty	Vincennes	Dead
Henry Hurst	Jeffersonville	Yet living
David Raymond	Vincennes	Dead
Elias Roberts	Springfield	Dead
Isaac Howk	Charlestown	Dead
Reuben W. Nelson	Jeffersonville	Killed
Harbon H. Moore	Corydon	Dead
Alexander Buckner	Charlestown	Dead
David Floyd	Corydon	Dead
_____ Dunn		Dead
_____ McDonald	Vincennes	Dead
John McLain	Shawneetown	Dead
Adolphus Hubbert	Shawneetown	Dead
Thomas Brown	Shawneetown	Dead
Robert M. Evans	Princeton	Dead
James Ralph Erskin Goodlet		Yet living
George W. Lindsay	Vincennes and Princeton	Dead
John Law	Vincennes and Evansville	Living
George W. Ewing	Vincennes	Dead
Samuel Judah	Vincennes	Living
John A. Brackenridge	Boonville	Living
Pandell Crawford	New Albany	Living
Charles I. Battell	Springfield and Evansville	Living
Amos Clarke	Evansville and Texas	Living
James A. Boice	Evansville	Dead
John Pitcher	Mt. Vernon and Princeton	Living
Samuel Hall	Princeton	Living
Abner T. Ellis	Princeton and Vincennes	Living
Willis C. Osbourne	Princeton	Dead
James Hillyer	Henderson, Ky.	Dead
Thomas Towles	Henderson, Ky.	Dead
_____ Walker	Henderson, Ky.	Dead

Names.	Residences.	Remarks.
Walker	Henderson, Ky.	Dead
E. F. Hopkins	Henderson, Ky.	Living
A. Dickson	Henderson, Ky.	Living
L. W. Powell	Henderson, Ky.	Living
George Morris	Henderson, Ky.	Dead
McKinney	Evansville	Dead
Theodore Barnett	Crawford County	Living
Gibbs	Crawford County	Dead
Sterrett	Kentucky	Dead
Lyman Lessly	Corydon	Living
George Webb	Bonpas, Ill.	Dead
Joseph Warner	Washington	Dead
Amory Kinney	Washington and Terre Haute	Living
Elisha Embree	Princeton	Living
Eben D. Edson	Mt. Vernon	Dead
Seth M. Levenworth	Leavenworth	Living
Amos Lane	Lawrenceburgh	Dead
Thomas Fitzgerald	Boonville	Living
Thomas Jefferson Evans	Princeton	Dead
James O. Wattles	North Harmony	Dead
William L. T. Jones	Evansville	Dead
James Lockhart	Evansville	Living
James G. Jones	Evansville	Living
John R. Porter	Paoli	Dead
John Calhoun	Kentucky	Dead
Phil. Triplet	Yellowbanks, Ky.	Dead
Phil. Thompson	Yellowbanks, Ky.	Dead
Hannah	Yellowbanks, Ky.	Dead
Mosely	Yellowbanks, Ky.	Dead
William R. Griffith	Yellowbanks, Ky.	Dead
John McFarland	Yellowbanks, Ky.	
Samuel Frisby	Rome	Living
George S. Green	Mt. Vernon	Living
Bell	Rome and Springfield	Dead
Elias S. Terry	Washington	Living
Cardozes	Princeton	Dead
David McDonald	Bloomington	Living
Ferry P. Thornton	New Albany	Living

Names.	Residences.	Remarks.
William P. Thomasson-----	Corydon -----	Living
John W. Payne-----	Corydon -----	Living
----- Stephens -----	Crawford County -----	Dead
James P. Maxwell-----	Princeton -----	Dead

Fifty-five dead; thirty-one living; two not known; total, 88.

General W. Johnston for a time resided at Princeton. He practiced in the courts of Gibson county and was a man of marked ability. As a member of the territorial Legislature he prepared and presented a report which ranks among the ablest anti-slavery documents of our history.

Robert M. Evans, one of the chief public men of his day, whose name is intimately associated with most of the events of our early local history, was a member of the bar of the Gibson circuit court, and John Law was engaged frequently in the litigation of this county.

Samuel B. Judah, a resident of Vincennes, practiced his profession here and in doing so made quite an impression upon our history. During the territorial days of Indiana, Congress, by law, devoted a township of land as an endowment of a seminary of learning within the territory and, pursuant to the enactment, Albert Gallitan, the secretary of the treasury, set apart township number 2 south, of range number 11 west, for the purpose. By an act of the territorial Legislature, Vincennes University was incorporated and made the beneficiary of the donation. The trustees of the university were duly organized and they established a school at Vincennes, which, after a fitful existence, ceased to be maintained. The matter remained dormant for a number of years, and meanwhile the General Assembly of the state established the State University at Bloomington and by law undertook to divert the nation's gift to that institution. Mr. Judah in these proceedings discovered an opportunity for business. He succeeded in getting together the survivors of the board of trustees of the Vincennes University, caused them to hold meetings and to fill the vacancies in that body and finally to institute in the Gibson circuit court actions of ejectment against the purchasers of lands in township number 2 south, of range 11 west, from the state of Indiana.

This was by no means popular among the dwellers within that congressional township and there was great indignation and much threatening of violence. It was found to be inconvenient to prosecute these actions in the Gibson circuit court, and to avoid trouble and probably something worse, Mr. Judah appealed to the Legislature and secured the passage of a law permitting

the Vincennes University to sue the state in the Marion circuit court at Indianapolis.

In the action which followed, the Vincennes University was successful and the state appealed from the judgment to the supreme court of Indiana, by the judgment of which court the judgment of the Marion circuit court was reversed. This was followed by a writ of error carrying the record to the supreme court of the United States, where the cause was argued on behalf of the Vincennes University by the great Chancellor Kent, of New York. The result of this proceeding was that the supreme court of the United States reversed the judgment of the supreme court of Indiana, holding that the title to the township of lands had vested in the Vincennes University, and that there was no power in the state Legislature to divest that title.

The next step on the part of Mr. Judah was to realize upon his victory and the course he pursued to do this was to procure the passage of an act by the Legislature of Indiana, authorizing the issuing of bonds of the state to raise funds wherewith to pay the judgment.

The bonds were issued and fell into hands of Mr. Judah, whereupon there began a course of interesting legislation whereby the Vincennes University sought to get into its hands the fruits of its victory. Just how much it was able to wrest from Mr. Judah the writer has never learned.

These proceedings have been the basis of the periodical demands that have been made by the Vincennes University for reimbursement by the state for the lands in township 2 south, of range 11 west, that were sold many years ago for the benefit of Indiana University. These demands have been fairly successful in the past, but it is hoped that the university will not have to be reimbursed again.

Another lawyer of prominence in his day was John Pitcher, a lawyer of the old school and a man of large ability. He lived to a great age and died at his home in Mt. Vernon, in Posey county, a few years ago. For a period he was judge of the court of common pleas and many were the stories illustrative of his wit and sarcasm both at the bar and while upon the bench.

During his incumbency of the bench there was a lawyer at Princeton named Harry Kiger, a young man of gay spirit and convivial habits. The passages between him and the judge provided stories of interest, some of which are yet current.

It is said that upon one occasion Mr. Kiger left the court room to take an additional inspiration before beginning an address to the jury. He stayed a little too long and his time to speak came before his return. The weather

was warm, and as Mr. Kiger hurried into the court room and toward the bar he was engaged in removing his coat, his neck cloth and collar which, when the judge perceived it, caused him to announce from the bench in an audible voice, "Mr. Kiger kindly keep on your shirt."

On one occasion after Judge Pitcher had decided adversely to the hope of some members of the bar, the defeated and chagrined lawyers proceeded to leave the court room in a manner somewhat perceptible. As they went towards the door the Judge called out to them, "Yes, yes, gentlemen, adjourn to the nearest tavern and cuss the judge."

A few years ago a volume could have been written of anecdotes such as these relative to Judge Pitcher and Harry Kiger, but the men of their days are gone and the wit, the sarcasm, and the glory of these men have passed into that oblivion which is the goal of the votaries of the law.

A member of the Gibson county bar of signal learning and ability in his day was Alexander C. Donald, a Scot by birth and a man of ripe learning. Mr. Donald was an orator of unusual merit, and his broad Scotch accent and the burr of his r's lent a charm to his delivery which seldom has been equalled. His case was one of buried talent. If Alexander C. Donald had been in a larger community and had had opportunities equal to his talents, there is no way of estimating the height to which he might have ascended in success and fame.

Contemporary with Mr. Donald was James T. Embree, a classical graduate and an educated lawyer of distinguished power and success. He was born in Princeton and from 1852 until 1861, when he entered the Union army as major of the Fifty-eighth Regiment of Indiana Volunteers, Mr. Embree practiced his profession in the courts of Gibson and neighboring counties. It was quite usual for him and Mr. Donald to be upon opposite sides in cases in court, and while their talents were dissimilar, the measure of their success was about equal. After resigning from the army because of failure of health in 1864, Colonel Embree returned to the practice of the law in Princeton, as partners of his brother, David F. Embree. His health did not permit him to continue long, and his career ended in death in 1867, at the age of thirty-eight years.

Another man of prominence at the bar of our county was William M. Land, a man of great cunning in the trial of cases, and a figure in the political and civic life of the community. He was judge of the court of common pleas for a few months immediately before that court was abolished.

At about the same period there came to the bar of this county Clarence

A. Buskirk and David F. Embree, and both took rank at once as leaders of the bar. They were men of education and lawyers of more than common strength. In the trial of cases before a jury, Mr. Buskirk was a man of great success; as a technical lawyer Mr. Embree had few superiors. These men were frequently opposed to one another in the trial of cases and though their talents and equipment were in no way the same, it was not observable that either one of them had the greater advantage.

David F. Embree had served as a captain of Company E, Forty-second Regiment of Indiana Volunteers, during the Civil war, and exposure in that service was the cause of his death in 1877. Mr. Buskirk still survives, but for a number of years he has not pursued his profession.

A member of the Gibson county bar of other days, whose learning and ability in the conduct of causes demands special mention was William H. Trippett. Many years ago Mr. Trippett left Gibson county to become a resident of Montana, where he still resides and practices law. He is remembered at Princeton as a capable lawyer, somewhat inclined to indolence and to a disposition to have a "good time." It took a spur to put him in motion, but when he moved it behooved the other side to keep wide awake. The writer remembers well the efficiency of Mr. Trippett in the prosecution of one Ed. Smith, a negro charged with larceny. In the trial of this cause at Evansville, the argument of Mr. Trippett in closing this case for the state was equal to any forensic effort the writer has ever heard in more than thirty-six years of service at the bar. Mr. Trippett is still engaged in the practice at Anaconda, Montana.

Nearly forty years ago James E. McCullough, now the assistant attorney-general of Indiana, came from Petersburg to Princeton and entered upon the practice of law. In the practice, Mr. McCullough was very successful and there have been at the Princeton bar few men who were his equal in keenness and accuracy of legal perception and capacity to impress his views upon the courts. For a number of years he has been in the practice at Indianapolis.

There are others deserving of mention, some of them long since passed into the great beyond. There were John C. Schaffer, a good lawyer and a kindly gentleman; Martin W. Fields, an advocate of great skill and a capable lawyer; Richard M. J. Miller, the victim of many weaknesses, but a man of good ability and native sincerity; David D. Doughty, a matchless player at checkers and a friend of all men. These are gone.

There yet remains Thomas R. Paxton, a graduate of Harvard law school and a good lawyer, who has forsaken the tribe of the law for the more con-

genial business of banking; Thomas Duncan, the chairman of the public utilities commission of Indiana, whose practice at the Gibson county bar was an unbroken chain of success; Henry A. Yeager and James B. Gamble, survivors of the old school, who still persevere in the practice; Arthur P. Twineham, who has returned to the bar after a considerable period spent in other pursuits; John H. Miller, for many years a successful practitioner, but who has quit the law for the farm; Woodfin D. Robinson, ex-judge of the appellate court of Indiana, and William E. Stilwell, one time a state senator, who together are engaged in successful practice at Evansville; John W. Brady, a lawyer of sound learning and judgment, and a master hand at trial by jury. There is a train of new and younger men who are fast pushing to the front of their profession.

[Not the least deserving of specific mention in this connection is Lucius C. Embree, author of this chapter, and who, during a long, honorable and successful career, has ably sustained the splendid professional record of his family.—ED.]

ATTORNEYS AT THE BAR OF THE GIBSON CIRCUIT COURT IN ACTIVE PRACTICE  
IN 1914.

John T. Ballard	Princeton
Charles O. Baltzell	Princeton
Robert C. Baltzell	Princeton
Luther Benson	Princeton
Robert H. Clark	Princeton
Thomas W. Cullen	Princeton
Donald W. Duncan	Princeton
Lucius C. Embree	Princeton
Morton C. Embree	Princeton
James B. Gamble	Princeton
John Q. A. Goodman	Princeton
Dorris R. Head	Princeton
Harvey Harmon	Princeton
Hovey C. Kirk	Princeton
Henry Kister	Princeton
Oscar Lanphar	Princeton
Marsh T. Lewis	Princeton
Thomas M. McDonald	Princeton



Henry H. Niekamp .....	Princeton
Claude A. Smith .....	Princeton
Charles C. Summers .....	Princeton
Sanford Trippett .....	Princeton
Arthur P. Twineham .....	Princeton
Henry A. Yeager .....	Princeton
Oscar M. Welborn .....	Princeton
Abraham Cole .....	Oakland City
John M. Vandever .....	Oakland City
Henry Johnson .....	Owensville
Byron M. Johnson .....	Owensville

## CHAPTER XIV.

### SECRET SOCIETIES OF THE COUNTY.

In Gibson county, like all progressive counties, it was not long after the first struggles of early settlement had been gone through before various civic societies were organized. There was, however, a period when secret orders were not as popular as today. But the Masonic fraternity, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and, in more recent decades, the Knights of Pythias, all secured a footing and have ever since been advancing with the march of years. There are a score of so-called secret societies, the majority of which are of the fraternal, benevolent, or beneficiary insurance order, but of these this chapter will not go into detail, but of the three great, well-established, and world-wide recognized fraternities above named, more will be said in this connection. In any community where churches, schools and these three great orders are found there is found also the highest type of civilization.

### FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS.

Masonry was instituted for the first time in Princeton, December 21, 1820, under the name of Warren Lodge, under dispensation, with Randolph West as master, William B. Dimick as senior warden, Walter Wilson as junior warden, Holly Crawford as senior deacon, John I. Neely as junior deacon, William Jerauld as secretary, Ezekiel Reynolds as treasurer, and Joel F. Casey as steward. The first initiates under dispensation were Judge Samuel Hall, John I. Neely and Joel F. Casey.

The grand lodge met September 11, 1821, at Corydon, when a charter was issued to the above lodge under the name of Clinton Lodge No. 16. Judge Samuel Hall was present at this meeting as the representative of the new lodge and was therefore the first representative from a Princeton lodge of Masons to the grand lodge. The charter of this lodge was arrested in 1835 during the Morgan excitement.

On August 23, 1857, a dispensation was issued for the organization of Princeton Lodge, and a charter was issued May 25, 1858, as Prince Lodge, the name it now bears. The change was made at the request of the brethren

in honor of Judge William Prince, who died a Mason, and for whom the city of Princeton was named. The number of the lodge is 231.

William Jerauld served as the first master from date of dispensation to June, 1858, when he was succeeded by Rev. John E. Jenkins, who served seven years, during the period of the Civil war.

The charter members were Judge Samuel Hall, John Arbuthnot, Dr. John F. Howard, Joseph Neely, Joseph Chambers, William Jerauld, Holly Crawford and John McKain.

The first initiates were two, Jesse C. Kimball and B. Brauner, on November 17, 1857.

The masters in the order of service are as follows: William Jerauld, John E. Jenkins, J. D. Kaufman, Ralph Redding, John M. Ryan (eight years), Jacob G. Vail, Dr. William G. Kidd, Wilford B. McDonald, John N. Key, Henry P. Chambers, Thomas W. Cullen, Dr. George C. Kendle, Robert A. Woods (ten years), Rev. George D. Wolfe, John Burke, Ernest Mundelius, John F. Stewart, W. L. S. Wood, Harry G. May, Clarence Rosenberger, Rev. J. B. Pilant, Robert Baltzell.

The present Masonic Temple, at the corner of Prince and Water streets, was built and furnished at a cost of about twenty thousand dollars and was occupied May 9, 1905. The building committee charged with its construction was Dr. Robert S. Anderson, president; Robert A. Woods, secretary; George J. Welborn, treasurer; Jesse C. Kimball and Elmer E. Reeves.

The temple is occupied by Prince Lodge No. 231, Free and Accepted Masons; Princeton Chapter No. 75, Royal Arch Masons; Princeton Council No. 71, Royal and Select Masters; Princeton Commandery No. 46, Knights Templar, and Golden Fleece Chapter No. 176, Order of the Eastern Star. In March, 1914, the membership was two hundred and twenty-five.

Princeton Chapter No. 75, Royal Arch Masons, was chartered October 21, 1869, and the charter members were Daniel Head, John E. Jenkins, John M. Ryan, James W. Spain, Israel Stough, Frederick Federer, Thomas Cullen, R. L. Grissam, William F. Milliner. John M. Ryan was the first high priest, James W. Spain the first king, and John E. Jenkins was the first scribe. On the first of March, 1914, there were one hundred and forty-eight members of the chapter.

Princeton Commandery No. 46, Knights Templar, was issued dispensation April 26, 1902, and was granted a charter on April 16, 1903. The charter members were Robert A. Woods, Robert S. Anderson, John Burke, Elmer E. Reeves, Henry P. Chambers, Harvey C. Cunningham, J. H. Owen, A. B. Nickey, W. E. Nickey, Albert Deutsch, Louis Deutsch, George C. Mason,

Horation W. Vedder, John W. McGowan, George A. Klenck, S. M. Nickey, A. D. Firestone, Frank B. Copp and A. D. McClure. Robert A. Woods was the first eminent commander, Dr. Robert S. Anderson the first generalissimo, and Elmer E. Reeves the first captain-general. In March, 1914, there were fifty members.

Princeton Council No. 71, Royal and Select Masters, was issued dispensation July 4, 1898, and granted a charter on October 19th of the same year. The charter members were Robert A. Woods, M. L. Miller, Samuel M. Nickey, L. D. Mahaffey, Robert S. Anderson, John W. Johnson, William E. Nickey, John Burke and Elmer E. Reeves. Robert A. Woods was the first illustrious master, R. S. Anderson the first deputy illustrious master and S. M. Nickey the first principal conductor of work. In March, 1914, there were sixty-five members in the council.

Fort Branch Lodge No. 696, Free and Accepted Masons, was organized by the following charter membership: Marshall C. Powell, worshipful master; Horace Genung, senior warden; Spencer B. McKinney, junior warden; George T. Ford, treasurer; Homer T. Genung, secretary; Stephen U. Lockwood, senior deacon; Walter C. Polk, junior deacon; John Blessing, senior steward; James V. Stapp, junior steward; James A. Carson, tyler; Walter G. Gram, Samuel H. West, Walter S. Hoffman, William A. Polk, Herman G. Graper, James H. Johnson, Lawrence P. Atterbury, Charles G. Scales, Welsie Brokaw, Willis G. Stiefel, LaSalle Bryant, Jesse G. Turner, Horace O. Cherry, Lucius B. Marlette, Rev. Israel J. Turner, chaplain.

The present membership is same as above, with the one addition of Orville Ramsey.

The preliminary meeting was held December 13, 1912, at Fort Branch. A dispensation was granted this lodge January 1, 1913, and a charter secured May 27, 1913. Irwin's Hall was leased for five years and, with the support and co-operation of the owner of the building, a very beautiful, though small lodge room was arranged. The location is directly opposite the Chicago & Eastern Illinois railway station.

Lodge No. 364, Free and Accepted Masons, at Owensville, was organized and chartered on May 27, 1868, and F. W. Hauss was the first worshipful master. The present membership of the lodge is seventy-nine, and the members own their hall, built in 1903, costing two thousand dollars. The officers of 1913 are: Charles N. Emerson, worshipful master; A. W. Thompson, senior warden; F. A. Strehl, junior warden; S. C. Hudleson, treasurer; G. C. Gorman, secretary; Warren B. Johnson, senior deacon; M. T. Montgomery,

junior deacon; L. L. Whitenbaugh, tyler; and J. W. Mauck, Grant Teel and George T. Keneipp, trustees.

Oakland City Lodge No. 467, Free and Accepted Masons, was chartered on May 23, 1873. The present membership is one hundred and thirty-three. The officers today are: J. M. Vandever, worshipful master; J. W. Cockrum, senior warden; Golla McCord, junior warden; L. J. Deutsch, treasurer; John C. Mayhall, secretary; Cleon A. Simons, senior deacon; Earl F. McConnell, junior deacon; J. W. McCord and V. G. Butcher, stewards; E. M. Fowler, tyler.

Gibson Lodge No. 420, Free and Accepted Masons, of Hazelton, has a present membership of sixty-five men. It was chartered on May 24, 1879, as Goodwin Lodge No. 420, but on August 12, 1871, the hall was burned and the charter destroyed. On August 28, 1871, a duplicate copy was issued, and on May 28, 1878, the name was changed to Gibson Lodge. The officers at present follow: Charles W. McFetridge, worshipful master; Everett James, senior warden; Frank R. Cassidy, junior warden; J. A. Davison, senior deacon; John H. Briner, junior deacon; H. P. Phillips, senior steward; H. M. Arthur, junior steward; T. F. Thomas, tyler. Gibson Lodge has a notable record, one seldom equaled, especially in a town this size. They have fifteen living past masters. There is a chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star here.

#### INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS.

Princeton Lodge No. 64, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was instituted July 11, 1849. The present membership is one hundred and eighty. The hall was built in the year 1896, and cost twelve thousand dollars. The present officers are: Noble grand, F. L. Forthoffer; vice-grand, Kenney D. Land; recording secretary, John F. Stunkel; financial secretary, W. A. Dill; treasurer, J. W. Ritchie; trustees, A. J. Davis, L. L. Kern, Charles Pfohl; district deputy grand master, George H. Padgett. The Princeton lodge have assets totaling thirty-two thousand dollars, including two cemeteries and other real estate. The charter members of the lodge were W. S. Palmer, A. B. Lockhart, R. W. Dunbar, Philip Hornbrook, H. J. Hart, A. P. Elliott and W. Hubbell. There are nine lodges in the county, namely: Oakland, Francisco, Princeton, Hazelton, Fort Branch, Owensville, Summerville, Giro and Wheeling.

Gibson Encampment No. 55 was organized November 17, 1858, and the charter members were: A. B. Lockhart, P. Hornbrook, Joseph Tunock, John Farrell, Isaac T. White, D. S. Anderson, A. J. Collum, George Thornhill, E.

H. Degarme and D. Woolsey. The present officers of the encampment are: Chief patriarch, Edgar Mauck; high priest, D. C. Hanna; senior warden, J. N. Kern; junior warden, Edward W. Eaton; scribe, W. A. Dill; treasurer, L. L. Kern; trustees, George H. Padgett, George W. Shopbell, A. J. Davis. The members total about seventy-five.

Fort Branch Lodge No. 291, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was organized November 20, 1867, by the following charter members: R. T. Walters, John Blessing, J. M. Pretchett, A. F. Strain, William Ulers, H. C. West, R. B. Burns, J. M. Foster and Henry Blessing. The lodge now has a membership of sixty, and owns a two-story building, erected in 1897 at a cost of six thousand seven hundred dollars. The present officers are: Herman Graper, noble grand; R. M. Davenport, vice-grand; S. R. Lockwood, secretary; Homer Weeks, chaplain; Louis McIntire, warden; Perry D. Adkins, recording secretary; Jasper Bratton, secretary.

Francisco Lodge No. 814, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was organized in the year 1904, and now has fifty members. The hall was bought for seven hundred dollars. The officers are as follows: C. S. Barker, noble grand; W. F. Gentry, vice-grand; Ralph Bowman, secretary; D. O. Paul, treasurer; W. F. Gentry, R. C. Stormont, H. J. Peveler, trustees.

Oakland City Lodge No. 308, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was organized in the early part of 1884, and now has a membership of one hundred and two. The present officers are: Elmer Julian, noble grand; J. W. Lamb, vice-grand; J. L. Douglas, recording secretary; S. W. Melton, financial secretary; P. H. Lamb, treasurer; Emil Alexander, warden; John Hillyard, chaplain.

Hazelton Lodge No. 393, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, has a membership of one hundred and fifty. This lodge was instituted on January 25, 1872, and has had a rapid growth, at present owning a building erected in 1910, at a cost of fifteen thousand dollars. Iva Tribbett is noble grand; Charles Kirk, vice-grand; S. L. Pearson, past grand; Elza Armstrong, chaplain; Charles E. Jones, recording secretary; James H. Briner, financial secretary; trustees, T. J. Westfall, Charles W. McFetridge, Charles E. Jones. There is an encampment here with a membership of thirty, and numbered 363. There is also the Philanthropic Lodge of Rebekahs with a large membership.

Stewart Lodge No. 179, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, at Owensville, was organized and chartered in 1856, and has a present membership of seventy-five. The officers are: Past grand, James Newcome; noble grand,

Byron Marvel; vice-grand, John L. Shepler; secretary, Charles Sampson; treasurer, George Rhinefort.

#### KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.

This is one of the more recent secret societies, and is not as strong as are the Masons and Odd Fellows in Gibson county. Many years ago, however, there was a strong lodge of this order at Princeton, but with the changes of the passing years many of the members have left the order and joined the Elks and other benevolent orders of the city, and recently the Knights of Pythias have been greatly reduced and are not very active at this date in Princeton. Owensville, Oakland City and Hazelton all keep up good lodges of this society. No data has been furnished for the Owensville lodge.

Chevalier Lodge No. 183, Knights of Pythias, was organized at Oakland City on June 6, 1888, and now has a membership of one hundred and four. The officers are: Louis Shurig, master of work; John Mayhall, keeper of records and seal; Robert Slack, master of exchequer; F. C. Benton, master of finance; J. W. Lamb, master at arms; Grover Melton, inner guard; Clemor Bell, outer guard; R. W. Geise, J. W. McCord, J. M. Vandever, trustees.

Don Quixote Lodge No. 554, Knights of Pythias, was organized in Hazelton on February 7, 1911, and at present has eighty members. The present officers are as follows: S. R. Cunningham, chancellor commander; Elza Armstrong, vice-chancellor; Abner Manning, prelate; William Barnes, master at arms; T. T. Thorne, master of finance; James M. Phillips, master of exchequer; A. D. Ellis, master of work; John L. Catt, inner guard; John P. Sullivan, outer guard; J. D. Doty, keeper of records and seal; trustees, E. B. Loudin, E. G. Shute, A. C. Heise.

## CHAPTER XV.

### MILITARY HISTORY OF GIBSON COUNTY.

The pioneers who settled in the territory that was afterwards designated as Gibson county were largely emigrants from Kentucky, Tennessee and the Carolinas. Those from Kentucky, especially, brought with them a spirit of adventure and fearlessness that had been acquired by experience and training in the environments of their native state, and by the traditions and inspiration of such patriots as Daniel Boone and George Rogers Clark. Those who came from Tennessee, the Carolinas and the older states were largely people who left their former homes because of their conscientious opposition to slavery. These were no less fearless and courageous; they had the courage of convictions of right and justice. They were imbued with a stalwart patriotism, and of such people as this was the early citizenship of Gibson county composed. With such a citizenship in the early pioneers it is easy to account for the creditable record of Gibson county for loyalty and patriotism in all the years of its history.

### INDIAN WAR OF 1811—BATTLE OF TIPPECANOE.

The first war in which the citizens of Gibson county participated was that between Gen. William Henry Harrison and the Indian confederacy, organized and led by Tecumseh and his brother, the Prophet, in 1811. On November 7, 1811, the battle of Tippecanoe was fought, resulting in a complete victory for the American forces. This was one of the most important battles ever fought against the Indians in the West, and it was, in fact, the opening battle of the war of 1812.

The army under General Harrison engaged in this battle numbered about eight hundred, composed of the Fourth United States Regulars, with a body of militia and one hundred and thirty volunteer dragoons composed of the pioneers of the West who had enlisted in the service. Of this number, one hundred and eighty were killed or wounded in action. Thirty-seven were killed on the field and twenty-five of the wounded afterward died. The loss of the Indians was very heavy, but as they carried all of their wounded from the field during the battle, and their women and old men were busy burying





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Dedicated November 12, 1912.



the dead during the battle, no definite information could be obtained as to the extent of their loss.

There were three companies from the territory now comprising Gibson county engaged in this battle. These companies were commanded respectively by Capt. Jacob Warrick, David Robb and William Hargrove. Captain Warrick was mortally wounded in the battle and died soon after. James Smith was promoted from quartermaster to the captaincy of this company, after Warrick's death. Concerning Captain Warrick, the following extract from General Harrison's official report of the battle is of interest here:

"Captain Warrick was shot immediately through the body and taken to the surgery to be dressed. As soon as it was over, being a man of great bodily vigor and able to walk, he insisted on going back to the head of his company, although it was evident that he had but a few hours to live."

The official roster of the three companies for which Gibson county can claim credit was obtained by Col. W. M. Cockrum from the musty records in the war department at Washington. This was a painstaking effort, as the muster rolls were fragile and the writing not easily legible. But a complete list of the members of these companies was secured and published in Colonel Cockrum's "Pioneer History of Indiana," the first official list published, so far as we know. This official roll is worthy of a place in this record of the military history of Gibson county and, by the permission of Colonel Cockrum, it is here given:

Roll of a Company of Infantry of Indiana Militia, from September 16, to November 19, 1811:

Captain Jacob Warrick, commanding, killed November 7, 1811.  
Captain James Smith, promoted from quartermaster November 9, 1811.  
William Calton, lieutenant, discharged September 27, 1811.  
Thomas Montgomery, Jr., promoted to lieutenant, September 30, 1811.  
James Duckworth, ensign.  
Robert Montgomery, sergeant.  
Robert McGarry, sergeant.  
James Piercall, sergeant.  
Isaac Woods, sergeant.  
Benjamin Venables, corporal.  
Thomas Black, corporal.  
Robert Denney, corporal.

Privates: James Alsop, James Stewart, Jesse Key, Bennet Key, James Withers, Jesse Brewer, Richard Davis, Asa Music, Smith Mounts, James

Stapleton, Lewis Sealy, James Bohannon, Daniel Duff, William Todd, John Gwins, Burton Litton, Peter Whetstone, Timothy Dower, Benjamin Stoker, Miles Armstrong, William Young, Maxwell Jolley, Fielding Lucas, John McGarry, Thomas Montgomery (sixty-five years old), John Montgomery, Ephraim Murphy, Langsdon Drew, William Gwins, William Black, Joshua Capps, Andrew McFaddon, Squire McFaddon, Wilson Jones, Jeremiah Robinson, Hugh Todd, Martin Laughon, George Lynxwiler, William Stevens, John Coyler, Thomas Almon, William Almon, Thomas Duckworth, John Robb, John Neel, William Black, Randolph Clark.

Roll of a company of mounted riflemen of the Indiana militia, from October 25 to November 19, 1811:

David Robb, captain commanding.

Joseph Montgomery, lieutenant.

John Waller, ensign.

Elsbery Armstrong, sergeant.

William Maxidon, sergeant.

Ezkial Kite, corporal.

George Anthées, corporal.

Bryant Harper, trumpeter.

Privates: Amb. Decker, James Tweedle, William Peters, Francis Hall, William Tweedle, John Severns, Jr., Thomas Sullivan, Daniel Fisher (killed November 7, 1811), Joseph Garress, Edward Buttner (killed November 7, 1811), Thomas Shouse, William Selby, James Robb (severely wounded), Isaac Rogers, James Bass, David Mills, John Black, John Za Orton, Amstead Bennett, Stewart Cunningham, Booker Shields, John Slaven, James Langsdon, Jesse Music (killed November 7, 1811), William Alsop, Thomas C. Vines, Samuel James, Frederick Rell, John Black, Jonah Robinson, John Rogers, George Leech, Jr., Thomas Givins, William Carson, George Litton, William Downing, James Blanckes, James Minor, Peter Cartright, Thomas Garress, David Tobin, John Riggs, Thadeus Davis, Thomas P. Vampit, John Crawford, William Askins, Alex Maken (badly wounded), Moses Sandridge, John Dragoo, Robert Tenneson, Joseph Right, Thomas West, David Knight, Thomas Jordan (transferred to Dubois Company), William Bass, Hugh Shaw, David Lilley, James Ashbury (killed November 7, 1811), Robert Wilson, John Christ, Kader Powell (killed November 7, 1811), Thomas Dunn, Jacob Kertner, Jonathan Humphrey, William Witherhold, David Edwards, Samuel Hamilton, Richard Potts, George Robinson (severely wounded).

Roll of a company of infantry of the Indiana militia, from September 19 to November 19, 1811.

Captain William Hargrove, commanding.

Isaac Montgomery, lieutenant.

Cary Ashley, ensign, resigned October 27, 1811.

Henry Hopkins, ensign, promoted from sergeant October 27, 1811.

David Brumfield, lieutenant, promoted from corporal October, 1811.

Bolden Conner, sergeant.

James Evans, sergeant.

David Miller, sergeant, promoted from corporal October 27, 1811.

William Scales, sergeant, promoted from private October 27, 1811.

David Johnson, corporal.

Privates: Samuel Anderson, Jer. Harrison, Joseph Ladd, Thomas Archer, James Lemm, Joshua Day, William Pierson, Robert Milborn, John Lout, James Young, Author Meeks, Reuben Fitzgerald (slightly wounded), Jacob Skelton, William Gordon, Reding Putnam, Johnson Fitzgerald, James Skelton, Samuel Wheeler, John Braselton, Jr., John Flener, Pinkney Anderson, William Archer, Charles Collins, Charles Penelton, John Mills, John Cockrum, Nathan Woodrough, John Tucker, John Conner, Zachary Skelton, Benjamin Scales, Laban Putnam, John May, Thomas Arnett, Elias Barker, Robert Wheeler, William Mangrum, James McClure, Benjamin Conner, William Skelton, Randolph Owen, James Crow, George Cunningham, Joseph Mixon, Edward Whitacer, Robert Skelton (severely wounded), Conrod LeMasters, Haz Putnam, Joshua Stapleton, William Harrington, Isaac Tweedle, Richard M. Kirk, James Skidmore, Samuel Gaston, Chas. Meeks, David Larrence (discharged September 19, 1811), Robert Montgomery (discharged September 19, 1811), Joseph English (discharged September 19, 1811), Calreen Merry (discharged September 19, 1811).

Other prominent citizens of Gibson county who bore a conspicuous part in that war were Robert M. Evans, who was one of General Harrison's aides; Capt. William Prince, Gen. John I. Neeley, Col. Joshua Duncan and Major James Smith.

#### WAR OF 1812.

In the war of 1812 Gibson county was well represented. A great many of the veterans who did such valiant service in the Tippecanoe campaign found opportunity for further service in the war against Great Britain, participating in the battle of Thames and other important engagements.

## MEXICAN WAR.

In the Mexican war, which occurred in 1846-8, Indiana supplied five regiments in which a number of men from Gibson county found service. There were also a number who enlisted in a company commanded by Capt. Richard Owen in the Sixteenth Kentucky Volunteers. Judge William M. Land, later a prominent citizen of Princeton, was a member of Company I, Fourteenth United States Infantry, of which Colonel Truesdale was in command. Others who enlisted in the Mexican war and afterwards became citizens of Gibson county were George W. Gorman, Jacob G. Vail and Dr. W. G. Kidd. Gorman and Vail raised a company for the Seventeenth Indiana Regiment in the Civil war, in which Gorman attained the rank of lieutenant-colonel. Vail was commissioned colonel and at the close of the war was breveted brigadier-general.

## BLACK HAWK WAR.

There were a few men from this county in the Black Hawk war in 1832. Among these were Joseph Summers and Thomas Summers, ancestors of a large relationship in the southwestern part of the county.

From its earliest history there was a continual warfare in the territory comprising Gibson county between the white settlers and the Indians, as is evidenced by the number of forts and stockades erected in several localities. These defensive precautions were necessary for the protection of the whites and their families against the hostile Indians.

## REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

While there is no record of enlistments supplied from this territory in the Revolutionary war, a great many of the Revolutionary soldiers became citizens of the county after the war. Among these were Thomas Montgomery, Jesse Kimball, Samuel Montgomery, Jere Wyatt, Joshua Kitchens, George Holbrook, Sr., John Severns, and Robert Archer and James Smith.

One of the most noted persons probably that had a part in the Revolutionary war and afterward came to Gibson county to spend his last days was a colored man by the name of Sampson. He had been with General Washington as a body-servant, he claimed, and was familiar with the personal character and habits of that distinguished patriot. Sampson was a slave and was brought to this county by Robert Archer and given his freedom. He was

quite old and unable to do any kind of work, but found friends here who cared for him. His death occurred in 1850, and his funeral was on the fourth of July of that year. He was given a military funeral and a great demonstration was made by the citizens who turned out to do him honor. There **was firing of cannon** and a procession headed by a band and the flag. The procession marched to the Archer cemetery, where the remains were buried. That was the first of anything like a military funeral that occurred in Princeton.

#### THE CIVIL WAR.

But it was in the war of the Rebellion that Gibson county made the proudest record. That was a supreme test of her loyalty and patriotism. That was the test to try every man's loyalty and courage of what sort it is. This loyalty and courage was revealed by fire and the more than two thousand soldiers from Gibson county passed through this fire and gave proof of their fidelity to the principles and convictions of patriot ancestors. When the tocsin of war was sounded by rebel guns at Sumter the sons of Gibson county crowded forward to offer their services to the national government and there is no page in her history so brilliant as that which glorified their deeds on more than one hundred battlefields.

On the morning of the 15th of April, 1861, immediately after the news of the firing upon Fort Sumter had been received, Governor Morton wired President Lincoln, making a tender of ten thousand men for the defense of the nation. On the same day President Lincoln issued his proclamation calling for seventy-five thousand volunteers from the several states in the Union for the suppression of the Rebellion. Under this call Indiana's quota was six regiments of infantry, or about six thousand men, to serve three months.

Within five days after this call was promulgated more than twelve thousand men had been enrolled in Indiana and were pressing Governor Morton for acceptance and muster into the United States service.

Among these early enlistments was a company from Gibson county. The day following President Lincoln's proclamation a recruiting office was opened in Princeton and the fife and drum were heard for the first time calling for volunteers to defend the flag.

The roll of this first company was soon made up and the company was ready for orders to go to Indianapolis for muster into the service. But the quota for the state under the President's call had been filled by this time and the Gibson county company, like many others, had to stand aside. The company was disbanded, but only for a short time.

## SEVENTEENTH REGIMENT INDIANA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

Within a month an additional call for volunteers to serve three years or during the war was made by President Lincoln. Under this call Indiana's quota was four regiments of infantry and one regiment of cavalry, and this gave the Gibson county company the opportunity to enter the service. The muster roll was opened and the enlistments for three years or during the war called for. George W. Gorman and Jacob G. Vail were the most active in recruiting this company. The company was organized with the following officers: Jacob G. Vail, captain; Silas W. Boswell, first lieutenant; William G. Berry, second lieutenant. Vail was promoted to major, lieutenant-colonel and colonel successively, and was mustered out with his regiment with the rank of brevet brigadier-general, having attained the highest rank of any who entered the service from this county. Early in May, 1861, this company was mustered into the United States service at Indianapolis as Company H of the Seventeenth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry. At the organization of the regiment George W. Gorman was appointed major and Dr. S. E. Munford assistant surgeon. Later Gorman was promoted to lieutenant-colonel and Doctor Munford to surgeon. In the latter part of his three years' service Doctor Munford was medical director of Wilder's brigade.

The first service of the Seventeenth Regiment was in Virginia under General Reynolds. Later the regiment was sent to Kentucky and assigned to the division of Gen. T. J. Wood in General Buell's army.

In the early part of 1863 the regiment was detached from the brigade and division to which it had belonged up to this time, and was assigned to another brigade organized as mounted infantry. This brigade was organized and commanded by Col. John T. Wilder, and became famous and effective as Wilder's Brigade. It was as a part of Wilder's Brigade that the Seventeenth did the most effective service. They participated in all the campaigns and battles through Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama, making raids and skirmishes within the enemy's lines to such an extent that they became known as invincibles. After all their strenuous campaigns they came to Macon, Georgia, where they had a sharp fight on the 20th of April, 1865, resulting in the capture of that city with three thousand prisoners, including several high officers. Here the Seventeenth did post duty until the 8th of August, 1865, when the regiment was mustered out.

Under this call other enlistments from Gibson county were made in the Fourteenth Indiana, organized at Terre Haute by Col. Nathan Kimball, after-



wards major-general. Another full company from this county became a part of the Twenty-fourth Indiana, organized at Vincennes by Col. (afterwards major-general) Alvin P. Hovey. And there were also a number from this county enlisted in the Twenty-fifth Indiana, being organized at Evansville by Colonel Veach, afterwards brigadier-general.

#### TWENTY-FOURTH REGIMENT INDIANA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

In the Twenty-fourth Indiana Frank M. Redburn was appointed first lieutenant of Company K at the organization of the company, and W. S. Pollard was second lieutenant. Redburn was promoted to major and Pollard to captain during the term of service. The Twenty-fourth Regiment saw service under General Grant at Fort Donelson, Shiloh and Vicksburg. It was in the division commanded by Gen. Alvin P. Hovey and distinguished itself in the battle of Champion Hills, where it charged and routed the enemy who was strongly entrenched.

#### THIRTY-THIRD REGIMENT INDIANA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

As the war progressed another call for three hundred thousand volunteers was made by President Lincoln. This was after the battle of Bull Run, when the people of the North became conscious of the fact that the suppression of the rebellion was an undertaking of serious magnitude. It was realized then that this was to be a real war, and not a "breakfast spell," as some at first foolishly asserted.

Under this call there was abundant opportunity for the boys of Gibson county, who were so inclined, to enter the service. A company was enrolled in Princeton in the month of August, 1861, by James M. Henderson, who had been engaged in teaching in what was then the Morton Academy, Princeton. This company became a part of the Thirty-third Regiment, organized at Indianapolis by Col. John Coburn. The company was designated as Company F, and at the organization was officered as follows: Burr H. Polk, captain; J. T. Fleming, first lieutenant; Francis Brunson, second lieutenant. James M. Henderson was appointed lieutenant-colonel at the organization of the regiment. Burr H. Polk was appointed to staff duty, with the rank of major, soon after entering the service, and J. T. Fleming was promoted to captain of Company F. On the expiration of Captain Fleming's term of service W. S. McCullough succeeded to the captaincy, James C. McClurkin to first lieutenant, and Robert F. McConnell to second lieutenant. Robert M. McMaster, a

Princeton boy, was appointed quartermaster of the regiment in November, 1864, and was mustered out with the regiment.

The Thirty-third Regiment was mustered into the United States service September 16, 1861, at Indianapolis, and soon after departed for the field of operations in Kentucky. The regiment was assigned to a brigade of which Col. John Coburn was commander, and served under him during the war. They spent the first year or so of their service in eastern Kentucky and eastern Tennessee. Cumberland Gap was captured and held by the command of which the Thirty-third was a part during the summer of 1862. In the fall of that year this position had to be abandoned and the forces occupying it had to retreat into Kentucky, on account of the aggressive movements of the Confederate armies under Bragg and Kirby Smith. Early in October the Thirty-third Regiment was in the vicinity of Lexington and Covington. The regiment spent several months in Kentucky and then moved to Nashville, where they arrived early in February, 1863. Marching in the direction of Columbia, on the 4th of March they had a severe fight with a strong Confederate force under VanDorn, resulting in defeat and the capture of almost the entire regiment. After a few months in prison the regiment was paroled and returned to the army, then under command of Rosecrans in Tennessee. The regiment was on duty around Murfreesboro, Tullahoma, and vicinity, until the following January, when they re-enlisted as a veteran organization. Returning from the thirty-day furlough granted, they were assigned to the Twentieth Army Corps under General Hooker, and participated in the movement of Sherman's army from Chattanooga towards Atlanta. In that campaign the Thirty-third was almost constantly engaged in marching and fighting. The principal battles in which they were engaged were: Resaca, New Hope Church, Culp Farm, Kenesaw, Peach Tree Creek and in front of Atlanta. In this campaign the regiment lost more than three hundred killed and wounded. After the surrender of Atlanta the regiment was a part of Sherman's army that marched to the sea. Thence through the Carolinas to Goldsboro, and on to Washington, and then back to Louisville, where they were mustered out.

#### FORTY-SECOND REGIMENT INDIANA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

In the month of September, 1861, two more companies were enlisted in Gibson county, one in Princeton by Nathaniel B. French and D. F. Embree, and the other in the eastern part of the county by Samuel G. Barrett and

William M. Cockrum. These companies became part of the Forty-second Indiana Regiment, organized at Evansville by Col. James G. Jones.

The Princeton company was designated as Company E, and was organized with N. B. French, captain, William A. Waters, first lieutenant, Frank Wade, second lieutenant. French was promoted to major; Dorsey was assigned as adjutant; Frank Embree became captain of the company, and was in command during the greater part of the service. In the latter part of the service Joseph R. Ashmead was promoted from lieutenant to the captaincy of the company. Others who held commissions as lieutenants in the company were Ephraim Rutledge, who was killed in action at Goldsboro, William Jones and John R. Daugherty.

Company F of this regiment at the organization was officered as follows: Samuel G. Barrett, captain; Jacob W. Skelton, first lieutenant; William M. Cockrum, second lieutenant. Barrett and Skelton resigned after a few months, and Cockrum was promoted captain, and afterward to lieutenant-colonel, and was mustered out with the regiment. On the promotion of Cockrum, Lieut. J. D. Skelton was made captain. Others who held commissions as lieutenants in this company were John Q. A. Steele, who was killed in action at Goldsboro, Adoniram A. Keys, John C. White and William McCleary.

The early part of service of the Forty-second Regiment was in the western part of Kentucky. In the latter part of February, 1862, the regiment moved to Nashville, thence to Huntsville, where it remained on duty for several months. As a part of Rosseau's division the regiment joined in the retrograde march of Buell's army back through Tennessee and Kentucky to Louisville. With McCook's corps of Buell's army, the Forty-second moved from Louisville in pursuit of Bragg and found him ready for battle at Perrysville, on the 8th of October. The regiment bore a conspicuous part in that engagement and lost heavily in killed and wounded. Following the movements of the army the regiment arrived in Nashville in November. On the 26th of December they marched with the army, then under command of Rosecrans, toward Murfreesboro, and were engaged in the battle of Stone's River, December 31, 1862, and January 1 and 2, 1863, losing seventeen killed and eighty-seven wounded. The regiment remained in the vicinity of Murfreesboro until the following June, when it again took up the march with Rosecrans' army towards Chattanooga. On the 19th and 20th of September the regiment was severely engaged in the battle of Chickamauga, losing ninety in killed, wounded and captured. In the battles of Lookout Mountain and Mission Ridge the Forty-second lost forty-three in killed and wounded.

In January, 1864, the regiment re-enlisted as veterans, and after return-

ing from furlough joined Sherman's army in the Atlanta campaign, and participated in all the principal battles. In November it marched with Sherman's army from Atlanta to Savannah, thence through the Carolinas to Goldsboro, taking part in the battles of Averysboro and Bentonville. This was the closing campaign of the war and the Forty-second now turned their faces homeward, passing through Richmond, Washington to Louisville, where it was mustered out July 25, 1865.

#### FIFTY-EIGHTH REGIMENT INDIANA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

In October, 1861, Dr. Andrew Lewis was commissioned by Governor Morton to organize a regiment from the counties then composing the first congressional district, the organization camp to be at Princeton.

This camp was established in the county fair grounds in October, 1861, and was known as Camp Gibson. The regiment was designated as the Fifty-eighth Indiana, and after the preliminary work of organization by Dr. Lewis, H. M. Carr was regularly commissioned as colonel; George P. Buell, lieutenant-colonel; James T. Embree, major; Samuel Sterne, quartermaster; Dr. W. W. Blair, surgeon; Rev. John J. Hight, chaplain. In addition to the field and staff officers, four full companies, with several enlistments in other companies, in this regiment, in all about four hundred men, were from Gibson county. After a few months' service in the field Colonel Carr resigned and George P. Buell was commissioned colonel, and James T. Embree, lieutenant-colonel. At that time Capt. Joseph Moore, of Company B, was promoted to major. For the greater part of the service Colonel Buell commanded the brigade and Lieutenant-Colonel Embree commanded the regiment. On the resignation of Colonel Embree in the latter part of 1863, Moore was promoted to lieutenant-colonel and was in command of the regiment during the rest of the service. At the close of the war Buell was breveted brigadier-general. In 1862 Dr. W. W. Blair was appointed medical director of Gen. T. J. Woods' division and served in this capacity until the close of his term of service. Doctor Blair is now (1914) the only member of General Woods' staff living.

Other Gibson county members of the regimental staff who succeeded by appointment or promotion, after the first organization, were: W. A. Downey, major; Charles C. Whiting, John G. Behm and Edward Reynolds, adjutants; Dr. S. E. Holtzman, surgeon, and Dr. James C. Patten, assistant surgeon.

## GIBSON COUNTY COMPANIES.

Company A was in command of Capt. Thomas G. Brown, who resigned in 1862, and was succeeded by Capt. William Davis, and on his resignation on account of wounds received at Chickamauga, Lieut. Charles C. Whiting was promoted to captain. Others who held commissions as lieutenants in this company were John G. Behm, Thomas Ruston, John Hoke and Oliver P. Bouldin.

Company B was organized with Captain Joseph Moore, First Lieutenant S. D. Ewing and Second Lieutenant Bedford Reavis. When Moore was promoted to major James M. Smith was transferred from Company K to the captaincy of this company, and served as such until the expiration of his term in April, 1865, when Lieut. Jacob Davis was appointed captain. Others who held commissions as lieutenants in this company were: James D. Foster, who was killed at Chickamauga, Joseph N. Endicott and Robert M. Lucas.

Company C was organized with Captain W. A. Downey, First Lieutenant E. E. Woods, Second Lieutenant Joseph D. Fisher. Downey was promoted to major and was succeeded by Augustus Milburn, who was promoted from first lieutenant. Others who held commissions as lieutenants in this company were D. M. Hadlock and Monroe Key.

Company D at the time of its organization was officered by Captain M. G. Hargrove, First Lieutenant James C. Knox, Second Lieutenant George Whitman. From start to finish there were a great many changes in the officers of this company. The captains after the organization were Bryan C. Walpole, George Whitman, George Raffan and Henry C. Torrence. The last three were promoted from first lieutenant. Near the close of the war Charles C. Montgomery and John C. Clark were commissioned lieutenants.

Among those from Gibson county who held commissions in other companies of the Fifty-eighth were: John W. Emmerson, second lieutenant, Company F; J. S. Ewing and James E. Chappel, second lieutenants in Company G; Quincy A. Harper, first lieutenant, Company I; Horace A. Hall, captain, and Samuel L. Snyder and S. F. Utley, lieutenants, in Company K.

The Fifty-eighth Regiment was mustered into the United States service on November 12, 1861, and on the 13th of December left their place of rendezvous in Camp Gibson for Louisville, going by way of Evansville, thence by boat. Marching from Louisville to Bardstown, where they were in camp for a week or so, they then moved on to Lebanon. They were assigned to General Woods' division of Gen. D. C. Buell's army, and during the winter of

1861 and 1862 marched about through central Kentucky, and on the 1st of March the regiment reached Nashville after the evacuation of that place. Leaving Nashville about the first of April, the regiment was with Buell's army on the march to Pittsburg Landing, arriving there on the evening of the second day's battle of Shiloh. It formed part of the force in advance towards Corinth, and was among the first of the Union army to enter that place after the evacuation. The regiment then joined in the movements of Buell's army through northern Alabama, to Shelbyville, Decherd, McMinnville, etc. It was in the retrograde movement of the army, leaving McMinnville about the first of September, marching through Nashville, Bowling Green, and arriving at Louisville September 29th, having engaged in a sharp skirmish with the **rear of Bragg's army at Mumfordsville on the way.**

On the 1st of October the regiment started out again from Louisville in pursuit of Bragg, who was then at Bardstown. It had a skirmish with the rear of the Confederate army near that place and drove them from the town, following the retreating Confederates through Danville, Crab Orchard, with occasional skirmishing, to near Mt. Vernon, when the chase was abandoned, and the regiment retraced its steps and turned again towards Nashville, where it arrived about the last of November.

On the 26th of December it formed a part of General Rosecrans' army in the advance on Murfreesboro, where Bragg's army was in force and ready for battle. The Fifty-eighth had a sharp fight at Laverne, on the way, in which several of the regiment were wounded. In the battle of Stone's River the regiment was actively engaged December 31, 1862, and the succeeding days, losing heavily in killed and wounded. The regiment participated in all the movements of Rosecrans' army from Murfreesboro to Chattanooga, and was in the battle of Chickamauga, on the 19th and 20th of September, 1863. In that battle the loss of the regiment was one hundred and seventy in killed, wounded and missing, out of an aggregate of four hundred engaged.

The Fifty-eighth was in Wagner's brigade, Sheridan's division, in the battle of Mission Ridge, and had sixty-six killed and wounded in the charge on the Ridge. Following this battle the regiment was sent to Knoxville on a forced march to relieve the army there besieged by Longstreet. While in that section of the country the regiment re-enlisted as veterans and returned home on a furlough.

On the return of the regiment to Chattanooga in April it was assigned to the engineer corps and took charge of the pontoon trains of Sherman's army. In this service the regiment laid all of the bridges for the advance of Sherman's army from Chattanooga to Atlanta, and thence to Savannah, with Sherman's

march to the sea. Leaving Savannah, the regiment did all the bridging and repairing of roads through the Carolinas to Goldsboro, thence on through Virginia to Richmond and Washington. From here the regiment was sent to Louisville, which was the starting point and the finishing point. It was finally mustered out of the service on July 25, 1865.

SIXTY-FIFTH REGIMENT INDIANA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

Under the call of 1862 the Sixty-fifth Regiment was organized in Princeton with John W. Foster as colonel. James L. Thornton, of Princeton, was quartermaster of this regiment. Company B of this regiment was officered as follows at the time of the organization: Captain, W. T. Stilwell; first lieutenant, James M. Hussey; second lieutenant, Richard M. J. Miller. On the resignation of Captain Stilwell in September, 1864, Miller was promoted captain and served until the regiment was mustered out. James M. Skelton also held a commission as lieutenant in this company.

The Sixty-fifth Regiment was mustered into the service on the 20th of August, 1862, and moved to Henderson, Kentucky, and spent some time looking after the guerrillas operating in that vicinity. On the 27th of August the regiment had a lively engagement with Adam Johnson's Confederate regiment at Madisonville, defeating the enemy and taking possession of the town. For about one year after this the several companies of the Sixty-fifth were distributed in different counties in that part of the state, assigned to guard and patrol duty. In the meantime the regiment had been mounted and in August, 1863, became a part of Colonel Graham's brigade of cavalry and mounted infantry. On September 1, 1863, the brigade to which the regiment was attached arrived at Knoxville, Tennessee, being the first Union troops to reach that place. From this time until the following January the regiment was constantly engaged in marching and fighting in eastern Tennessee, and some of the fighting was quite severe.

On the 21st of April, 1864, the regiment was dismounted and assigned to the Second Brigade, Third Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, and joined Sherman's army in the campaign to Atlanta. It participated in the battle of Resaca, and in all the battles and skirmishes of this campaign up to the capture of Atlanta. It then joined in the pursuit of Hood into Alabama and Tennessee, participating in the battles of Columbia, Franklin and Nashville. It was then transferred to Virginia where it participated in the attack on Fort Anderson and other battles and skirmishes in North Carolina. After



the surrender of Johnson the Sixty-fifth moved to Greensboro, where it was mustered out on the 22d of June, 1865.

#### EIGHTIETH REGIMENT INDIANA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

In the month of September, 1862, the Eightieth Indiana Regiment was organized in Princeton. Louis Brooks was lieutenant-colonel of this regiment at the time of organization and had command of the regiment until after the battle of Perryville, when Charles Denby was transferred from the Forty-second and became colonel of the regiment. George T. Simonson was major at the time of organization, and afterwards promoted to lieutenant-colonel. Dr. W. P. Welborn was commissioned surgeon and Dr. A. W. Spain, assistant surgeon. Rev. M. M. C. Hobbs, a well-known Methodist minister, was the chaplain.

Company A of the Eightieth Regiment was composed largely of the citizens and business men in Princeton and vicinity. The company officers at the organization were: Captain, Charles Brownlee; first lieutenant, Jesse C. Kimball; second lieutenant, William M. Duncan. On the resignation of Captain Brownlee in 1864 Duncan was promoted captain and served until the muster out of the regiment. Others who held commissions as lieutenants in this company were Henry C. Jerauld, William Archer and Jonah G. Tichenor.

Company E had for its first captain, Harrison M. Spain, who was promoted to major, and was succeeded by Enos H. Kirk. Those who held commissions as lieutenants were Alexander J. Montgomery, William C. Fisher and James S. Moran.

Russell J. Showers was the first captain of Company F. He was killed in the battle of Resaca, and Lieut. James S. Epperson was promoted to captain. Others who held commissions as lieutenants were Thomas S. Craig, John M. Wolf, James H. C. Lowe and Alexander R. Smith.

On the 8th of September the Eightieth Regiment left Camp Gibson and in just one month afterward they were engaged in the battle of Perryville, in which the regiment suffered severely, losing in killed and wounded one hundred and fifty officers and men. The regiment remained in Kentucky during the fall and winter of 1862 and 1863, doing guard and patrol duty. In August, 1863, the regiment left Kentucky with General Burnside's army and marched across the Cumberland mountains into eastern Tennessee, and participated in the campaign in the vicinity of Kingston and Knoxville during the fall and winter following. In the spring of 1864 the regiment left



eastern Tennessee with General Schofield's Twenty-third Corps, and joined Sherman's army in the Atlanta campaign. In this campaign the Eightieth participated in all the principal engagements from Dalton to Atlanta, including the battle of Resaca, Kenesaw and Peach Tree Creek, losing in this campaign one hundred and seventy-five in killed and wounded.

After the fall of Atlanta the regiment moved northward with the Twenty-third Corps in pursuit of Hood. It participated in the battles of Franklin and Nashville, which resulted in a rout and destruction of Hood's army. The regiment was then transferred to Virginia and joined the forces in the campaign against Wilmington, Kingston, Goldsboro and Raleigh. It bore a conspicuous part in the attack on Fort Anderson. After the surrender of Johnson the regiment moved to Saulsbery, where it remained until June 22d, when it was mustered out of the service.

#### ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTIETH REGIMENT INDIANA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

In the early part of 1864 the One Hundred and Twentieth Regiment was organized. In this regiment Gibson county was largely represented. Of the commissioned officers Dr. J. Marshall Neely was surgeon, Albert Knowles was captain, and John R. Thomas was lieutenant of Company D. Nathan Wilson, Richard W. Hastings and D. W. Smith held commissions as lieutenants in Company F.

This regiment, with the One Hundred and Twenty-third, One Hundred and Twenty-fourth, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth and One Hundred and Thirtieth, composed an Indiana division, and was under the command of Gen. Alvin P. Hovey. These regiments were largely composed of young men and boys and the division carried the name of "Hovey's Babies." The division was immediately placed on the firing line in the Atlanta campaign and these "babies" acquitted themselves as veterans in the many severe engagements in which they participated. They were assigned to the Twenty-third Corps and their history is identified with the other regiments of that command. They participated in the battles of Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, battles around Atlanta, in the pursuit after Hood, the battles of Franklin and Nashville.

After the battle of Nashville the regiment was transferred with the rest of the Twenty-third Corps to North Carolina, where it took a prominent part in the operation of the army in the section until the surrender of Johnson and the close of the war. The regiment remained for some time after this at Raleigh doing garrison duty.

## ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SIXTH REGIMENT INDIANA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

In May, 1864, the One Hundred and Thirty-sixth Regiment was organized to serve for a term of one hundred days. In this was one company from Gibson county, of which William Kurtz was captain, Francis Wade first lieutenant, Alexander C. Small second lieutenant. This regiment was especially organized for garrison duty and served the time in Tennessee, guarding forts and railroad bridges, thus relieving veteran troops for service at the front.

## ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-THIRD REGIMENT INDIANA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

The last regiment organized during the Civil war, in which there was enlistments from Gibson county, was the One Hundred and Forty-third. This regiment was largely composed of veterans who had seen service in other commands. It was organized in February, 1865. John E. Phillips was major of this regiment. William H. Fowler was captain of Company B and Bedford Reavis was captain of Company H. Ralph Redding and Alexander C. Small were lieutenants in Company H.

This regiment was fully equipped and ready for duty, but the war was practically over before they got within hearing of hostile guns.

## OTHER ENLISTMENTS.

In addition to the regiments mentioned, Gibson county soldiers found service in other regiments of this state and in other states. Among the other Indiana infantry regiments in which Gibson county soldiers were enlisted were the Fifteenth, Fifty-first, Sixtieth, Sixty-third and Ninety-first, the First, Fourth and Tenth Cavalry, the Eighth Indiana Battery, and the Twenty-first Heavy Artillery.

From first to last, there were more than two thousand volunteer enlistments from Gibson county. There were no drafted men, though there was in 1863 an enrollment of those subject to military duty, preparatory for a draft, if this course should be necessary to fill the county's quota in subsequent calls. As an inducement for volunteers to meet these calls the county offered liberal bounties for enlistments in 1864 and 1865. For this purpose the county paid the total amount of \$104,014.15 to those who enlisted in some of the later companies. The county also paid for the relief of soldiers' wives and widows during the war the sum of \$20,227.01.

It is difficult for the present generation to realize that the officers and men who composed the army in the greatest war of modern times were boys and young men; that the average age of the rank and file of those who enlisted from Gibson county was not more than twenty years. It is a mistaken impression that the army that fought to a successful conclusion the war of the Rebellion was composed of old and decrepit men, "who, weary with life's burden, flung the smoking wick of an expiring life into the trembling balance of their country's scales, and sought the rest of death and oblivion in the fire and smoke of battle." It was not of such as these that the army was composed. It was from the flower and youth of the land that the more than two thousand soldiers of Gibson county came. Behind them were doors of opportunity. Behind them were homes and friends, and home comforts, where "Plenty had her court and Joy and Peace saluted every morn." It was from all this that they turned away. They gave up their hopes, their ambitions, their world, their life and all for the sake of others. They suffered privation and endurance that others might have ease and comfort. They exiled themselves from home that others might have a home. They gave up life that this generation and the generations to come might have life and enjoy life more abundantly.

Gibson county soldiers faced death and mingled in the strife and carnage of nearly all the great battles of the Civil war. They contributed their part in the first great victory of the Western army at Fort Donelson. Some have lived to tell of their experience in the bloody conflict at Shiloh, at Perryville, and at Stone's River. Gibson county soldiers fought with Hovey at Champion's Hill, and with Grant in the siege and capture of Vicksburg. Gibson county soldiers were with Burnside when he stormed the rugged hills of Fredericksburg, and they fought among the burning pines of Chancellorsville. Gibson county soldiers stood with the men who resisted the desperate valor of the veterans under Lee and Longstreet at Gettysburg.

Gibson county soldiers stood with Gen. George H. Thomas on Snodgrass Hill, at Chickamauga, on that September Sabbath afternoon, and contributed of their might and valor and made it possible for that grim old chieftain to declare to the impetuous and almost victorious hosts under Hill and Longstreet, "Thus far shalt thou come and no farther."

Gibson county soldiers were among those who scaled the heights of Lookout Mountain and fought with Hooker in his famous battle above the clouds; they were among those, who, with unparalleled courage, charged the rifle pits, blazing with cannon and musketry, and climbed to the heights of Mission Ridge. And it was a Gibson county soldier who carried the flag

of the Fifty-eighth Indiana in that charge. He carried the flag unfurled and in full splendor floating to the breeze, and planted at Bragg's late headquarters, on the summit, the "banner of beauty and glory."

There were Gibson county soldiers in these and scores of other great battles of the war. They were with Sherman in his march to the sea. They followed Sherman through swamps and across the rivers of Georgia, and through the Carolinas, until they joined hands with other comrades from Gibson county, who had followed Grant through the Wilderness, to Richmond and Petersburg, on to the final victory and surrender of Lee's army at Appomattox. They participated in that greatest military pageant the world had ever seen, when the veteran regiments under Sherman and Grant, with bullet-ridden and battle-scarred banners, marched down Pennsylvania avenue in Washington, amid the plaudits and cheers of thousands of admiring spectators.

#### SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.

Although the men from Gibson county who enlisted for service in the war with Spain, in 1898, did not engage in any battles or skirmishes, they were trained, equipped and transported to different points in the country preparatory to meeting the enemy.

Gibson county was represented in the One Hundred and Fifty-ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry by Company K. This company was originally organized at Princeton on December 24, 1888, and assigned as Company K, First Regiment Indiana National Guard. In 1898 the company was officered as follows: George Soller, captain; Alva C. Eaton, first lieutenant; Paul S. Brownlee, second lieutenant; Ollie Watt, first sergeant; Robert Baker, quartermaster sergeant; Charles E. Brick, John F. Ervin, James R. Taylor, William M. Wilson, sergeants; Frank B. Duncan, William F. Moes, John R. McGinnis, Albert C. Parke, corporals; Louis O. Salzman and James F. Wheeler were also corporals; Joseph I. Eller and William P. Eaton were musicians; Claude McDonald was artificer; Iva M. Brewer was wagoner. Oliver M. Tichenor, of Princeton, was commissioned adjutant of the One Hundred and Sixty-first Indiana Regiment, commanded by Col. W. T. Durbine, afterwards governor of Indiana. This regiment spent a good part of its time of service in Havana, but was not in any engagement.

The One Hundred and Fifty-ninth Regiment was formed of the First Regiment of Infantry, Indiana National Guard, and was composed of companies from Vincennes, Terre Haute, New Albany, Washington, Evansville,

Roachdale, Madison, Brownstown, Bloomington, Greencastle and Princeton. The regiment arrived at Camp Mount, Indianapolis, on April 26, 1898, under orders from the governor, for the purpose of being mustered into the service of the United States. The same care was used in the physical examination of this regiment as obtained in other regiments, and they were mustered into the volunteer service of the United States on May 12th. The regiment left Camp Mount on May 22d, and arrived at Camp R. A. Alger, Dunn Loring, Virginia, on May 24th. Broke camp at Camp Alger on August 3d, and marched by easy stages to Thoroughfare Gap, Virginia, a distance of forty miles. Left there on August 28th, and moved by rail to Camp Meade, near Middletown, Pennsylvania, where they arrived August 29th. Under orders for the muster out of the regiment, they left Meade camp on September 11th, arrived at Camp Mount on the 13th, and were furloughed for thirty days. The regiment was mustered out on November 23, 1898.

## CHAPTER XVI.

### THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD IN GIBSON COUNTY.

One of the most interesting topics of the early history of Gibson county, and one which has never been written, is the "underground railroad," which passed through the county from south to north in the days before and during the Civil war. The underground railroad, in brief terms, was an avenue of escape, a system of "stations," or friends, extending from the slave states into Canada. A negro was transported from one station to another under the protection of the different station masters, who incurred great risks and many narrow brushes with death, in their desire to serve the cause of abolition. Not only from the slave owners in pursuit did the runaways and the station masters have to fear, but from a class of Northerners termed "wolves," who, in order to gain the reward offered for the return of escaped negroes, would endeavor to apprehend the fleeing men. There were many avenues of escape running during the fifties and sixties, and many and diverse were the methods used to smuggle the negroes to the Canadian line. Once in that neutral territory, they were safe from pursuit. One of these lines extended through Gibson county, and there were two stations known to have existed here, the principal one being three miles northwest of the city of Princeton, just below a big hill, at the home of David Stormont; the other station being in the Carithers neighborhood east of Princeton, the home of John Carithers. There was also another small relay station one mile west of Patoka, kept by David Hull.

In the history of the underground railroad, written just after the war by William Still, a colored anti-slavery worker, reference is made to the station kept by David Stormont. It is in the story of Seth Concklin, who nobly sacrificed his life to aid the wife and kindred of Peter Still, a slave who had bought his own freedom, but whose dearest possessions were yet in bondage, to escape by the underground railroad route. The plan proposed by Concklin was a hazardous one, and he undertook to execute it alone, with consequent failure. He and his charges were captured after they had proceeded as far north as Vincennes, Indiana, twenty-five miles north of Princeton. To William Still several letters were written by Concklin during his attempt to escape

with Peter Still's wife and relatives. One of these missives refers directly to David Stormont, although the letter has the name written as "Stormon." The letter follows:

"Princeton, Gibson County, Ind., Feb. 18, 1851.

"To Wm. Still:—The plan is to go to Canada, on the Wabash, opposite Detroit. There are four routes to Canada. One through Illinois, commencing above and below Alton; one through to north Indiana, and the Cincinnati route, being the largest route in the United States.

"I intended to have gone through Pennsylvania, but the risk going up the Ohio river has caused me to go to Canada. Steamboat traveling is universally condemned; though many go in boats, consequently many get lost. Going in a skiff is new, and is approved of in my case. After I arrive at the mouth of the Tennessee river, I will go up the Ohio seventy-five miles, to the mouth of the Wabash, then up the Wabash, forty-four miles to New Harmony, where I shall go ashore by night, and go thirteen miles east, to Charles Grier, a farmer (colored man), who will entertain us, and next night convey us sixteen miles to David Stormon, near Princeton, who will take the command, and I will be released.

"David Stormon estimates the expenses from his house to Canada at forty dollars, without which, no sure protection will be given. They might be instructed concerning the course, and beg their way through without any money. If you wish to do what should be done, you will send me fifty dollars, in a letter, to Princeton, Gibson county, Inda., so as to arrive there by the 8th of March. Eight days should be estimated for a letter to arrive from Philadelphia.

"The money to be State Bank of Ohio, or State Bank, or Northern Bank of Kentucky, or any other eastern bank. Send no notes larger than twenty dollars.

"One half of my time has been used in trying to find persons to assist, when I may arrive on the Ohio river, in which I have failed, except Stormon.

"Having no letter of introduction to Stormon from any source, on which I could fully rely, I traveled two hundred miles around, to find out his stability. I have found many Abolitionists, nearly all who have made propositions, which themselves would not comply with, and nobody else would. Already I have traveled over three thousand miles. Two thousand and four hundred by steamboat, two hundred by railroad, one hundred by stage, four hundred on foot, forty-eight in a skiff.

"I have yet five hundred miles to go to the plantation, to commence

operations. I have been two weeks on the decks of steamboats, three nights out, two of which I got perfectly wet. If I had had paper money, as McKim desired, it would have been destroyed. I have not been entertained gratis at any place except Stormon's. I had one hundred and twenty-six dollars when I left Philadelphia, one hundred from you, twenty-six mine.

"Telegraphed to station at Evansville, thirty-three miles from Stormon's, and at Vincennes, twenty-five miles from Stormon's. The Wabash route is considered the safest route. No one has ever been lost from Stormon's to Canada. Some have been lost between Stormon's and the Ohio. The wolves have never suspected Stormon. Your asking aid in money for a case properly belonging east of Ohio, is detested. If you have sent money to Cincinnati, you should recall it. I will have no opportunity to use it.

"Seth Concklin, Princeton, Gibson County, Ind."

However, as has been stated before, the worthy Concklin failed in his mission to get his negroes to the Canadian line. Concklin was placed in jail, whereupon he wrote to David Stormont to get funds for bail. A report afterward circulated, and found to be reasonably true, was to the effect that a man was found drowned, with his hands and feet in chains and his skull fractured. This was Seth Concklin.

In his book, "Looking Back from the Sunset Land," Rev. N. R. Johnston has written a very interesting narrative of his observation of Seth Concklin and his party. He writes:

"In fulfillment of presbyterial appointments I was at Princeton preaching two or three Sabbaths the latter part of March and the first of April. Early in the week before my last Sabbath there, Mr. David Stormont came to my lodging place (Elder Robert Stormont's) and told me that Seth Concklin and the four escaped slaves were at his house, having recently arrived safely from Alabama. Of course I accepted Mr. Stormont's invitation to ride with him to see his guests. They all were well, though tired and sleepy, and all were anxious about their safety as they knew that though they were now in a free state they were not free from the danger of being captured and taken back to slavery again. They had arrived the night before, having been conducted by the colored man, Charles Grier. Mr. Concklin gave me a warm welcome and was somewhat cheerful. With the others I soon became acquainted, though the two sons and the young daughter were reserved and diffident, having had no other school than the slave plantation. Mrs. Still, 'Aunt Vina,' was quite free in conversation. She was manifestly a woman of great natural ability and of rare common sense. I spent the day and the



evening with the fugitives and their rescuer and from them learned the whole story of their flight and journey. To me it was intensely thrilling, and I am sure that it would be the same to the reader if I could give it at length and with all its incidents as narrated by the fugitives. All I can do is to give the merest outline as told to me so that the reader may know how the escape was effected.

"At Cincinnati Mr. Concklin bought a large skiff and took it with him on board an Ohio steamer, and afterwards up the Tennessee river to Florence, Alabama, not far from the plantation where the slaves were. Here, under the assumed name of Miller, he busied himself inquiring for work and, representing that he was a miller, as he once had been, he tried to explain to the inquisitive why he had brought a skiff with him. In his meanderings he went to the plantation, and to the shoe-shop by the wayside, where one of the slaves was the cobbler for the others. Concklin needed some shoe mending done and thus he had an opportunity and without suspicion to obtain desirable information as to localities, for the time was near when, according to the appointment that had been made by Peter Still and his wife, he must go to visit her in the night. When the hour came Concklin was there 'sharp.' After waiting a while in the tolerably dark night, a colored woman approached quietly accompanied by one of her sons (no doubt) timidly. In subdued voices they spoke to one another. How could Aunt Vina know that this man was the very one that her husband had sent from Philadelphia to conduct her and her children out of the house of bondage? I will tell the reader, but in my own words, as she told me that afternoon at the house of David Stormont. She said: 'When my husband was about to leave me to go back to Philadelphia, I took off the cotton cape I had on and gave it to him. It had a hole in one corner. I said, "Give that cape to the man that is to come for us and tell him to bring it back to me, and when I get the cape and find the hole in it I'll be sure that he is the right man."' And as she told me this incident she went to her bundle of clothes and brought the cape and said to me: 'See there, sir; there is the hole,' showing it to me; and then she added: 'Then I knew all was right and I was glad.'

"Their interview was necessarily brief. Concklin told the woman what to do and when to bring the children to join him in the boat. They came at the appointed time and place and were soon rowing down the Tennessee river. When daylight came and when they saw people on the shore who might suspect that they were fugitives they laid down in the boat so that they could not be seen from the land. At one place some men on the shore shouted to

the boatman to stop. He did not obey the order, but rowed on the more stoutly. The fellows on shore then fired guns at the boat, but the God of the oppressed preserved those in the skiff from harm. Passing out into the Ohio and thereon up to the mouth of the Wabash, they rowed up this stream to New Harmony, and then carried out their plan as written in the letter to William Still.

"The night that I lodged at Mr. Stormont's Mr. Concklin and I slept in the same room and conversed until a late hour about things in which we both were interested, and we were not forgetful that the house might be surrounded at any hour of the night by a posse of pursuers of fugitive slaves.

"That was probably the last time that Seth Concklin ever slept on an ordinary bed. The next day duty called me away and I bade good-bye to the fugitives and their faithful friend and guide. Shortly after they were all on the highway towards Canada.

"What happened after their departure from Mr. Stormont's was not known except from unreliable reports from published telegrams and from Seth Concklin's letter to David Stormont, written after Concklin had been lodged in prison. Probably the reader may understand the situation at this time if I here copy a brief extract from a letter I wrote from Evansville, Indiana, to William Still under the date of March 31, 1851.

"I think it was twenty-three miles above Vincennes, Indiana, where they were seized by a party of men and lodged in jail. Telegraphic dispatches were sent all through the South. I have since learned that the marshal of Evansville received a dispatch from Tuscumbia to look out for them. By some means he and the master, so says report, went to Vincennes and claimed the fugitives, chained Mr. Concklin and hurried all off. As soon as he was cast into prison Mr. Concklin wrote to David Stormont at Princeton to find bail. As soon as he received the letter and could get away, two of us were about setting off to render all possible aid when we were told they all had passed south a few hours before, through Princeton, Mr. Concklin in chains. What kind of process was had, if any, I know not. I immediately came down to this place and learned that they had been put on a steamboat at three p. m. I did not arrive until six. Now all hopes of their recovery are gone.'

"After the letter from which this is extracted was written, additional facts were learned that threw some light on the dark tragedies. I communicated some of them to William Still, and this letter also he published in his book which came out nearly twenty years afterwards. I did not hear of the

capture of the fugitives until Mr. Stormont came into town and informed me of the sad intelligence. This was sometime on Saturday. Nothing could be done for the prisoners until after the Sabbath, when I was expected to preach. Besides, Mr. Concklin's letter had said that the trial was fixed for Thursday of the week following. Accordingly we made arrangements to go to Vincennes as soon as the Sabbath was over, that we might do all in our power to rescue the captives.

"Early on Monday morning Mr. Stormont and I were seated in the buggy and the lines in his hand, ready to set out from Princeton on our errand of rescue as we tried to hope, when a friend came hurriedly to inform us that we need not go as, on the day before, the captured party had all been taken through the town, going south in charge of the United States marshal from Evansville, and accompanied by the slave owner, McKiernon, from Alabama. Afterwards, the following facts were learned. The telegram that had been sent from Evansville into the South had been read by McKiernon, who hastened to go for his chattels. Taking the United States officer with him from Evansville, he hurried to Vincennes and claimed his slaves. They were given up to him and into the possession of the marshal without any trial whatever. The law was obeyed to the letter and the persons surrendered 'on the claim of him to whom such service or labor is due.' Concklin was handcuffed by the marshal and put into the stage coach with the colored people, and behind the coach rode in their own carriage the slave owner and the marshal. They left Vincennes on Sabbath morning and reached Princeton in time for dinner. While the master was in the hotel eating, the prisoners were retained in the stage under guard and without food; and then they all hurriedly drove on to Evansville.

"As I was expected to preach in St. Louis the next Sabbath and as I believed it my duty to do everything possible to prevent the dragging of the fugitives back into bonds, and if possible to save poor Concklin from chains, and from the awful fate which seemed to await him if carried into Alabama by the bloodhounds who had caught him, I hastened to take the morning stage for Evansville in the hope that I might reach the city before the departure of the captives and their captors. It was my purpose to hasten to employ an attorney and have writs issued for the release of the captives who had been brought away from Vincennes without any trial whatever. But I was too late. Three hours before my arrival all the party had departed by steamboat for Paducah, a town at the mouth of the Tennessee river. That same night I took the first steamer going down the river, and still hoping that

possibly if I could reach Paducah before the departure of the company I might do something for the friendless captives. Vain hope! An hour before my arrival at Paducah the master and his slaves had taken the stage for Florence, Alabama. I could do nothing. But what of Seth Concklin? My boat was detained an hour or two, so that I had time to go ashore and make inquiries of some colored men laboring on the wharf. They told me what they had heard the people say and from what I learned afterwards I believed that they were partly correct, as we will soon see. The United States marshal had gone down to Paducah, still having in his charge the slaves and Mr. Concklin. The passage was in the night. The officer sat up in guard of the captives, Concklin still handcuffed. Reports said that after the boat landed at Paducah, and while it was yet night, the marshal fell asleep or had asked McKiernon to guard his prisoner while he would sleep. It was reported moreover that when the marshal returned to where he left Concklin the latter was gone. McKiernon told the officer that while he (McKiernon) was watching he fell asleep and on awakening saw that the manacled man was missing. No one had seen anything of him. When morning came search was made and the dead body of the man, yet in his chains, was found in the river. On the side of his head was a very severe wound, probably a broken skull. The body was taken to a sand bank on the shore, not far distant, and buried in his clothes and irons as before death. All kinds of conjectures and reports were afloat. Having learned all I could possibly in the short time I had, I returned to my steamer and went on to St. Louis. On landing I hastened to find the vessel which had brought the fugitives from Evansville to Paducah and sought an interview with the officers to learn what I could from them. As the boat was owned by Northern men, I felt free to converse with the officers, though while the boat lay at the wharf at Paducah waiting for the morning nearly all the officers were asleep except the clerk, so that he was almost the only one who could tell me anything reliable. He had seen nothing of the parties after a late hour of the night, until in the morning after the man in irons was missing; but he told me what he had seen and heard after that time. One of the reports or opinions expressed was that Concklin (known by the name of Miller) had jumped overboard to drown himself rather than be taken to Alabama to fall into the hands of slave holders or Southerners. Another was that he had jumped into the water in the expectation of wading or swimming ashore, even though wearing heavy manacles, but that in leaping to the water he had been struck accidentally on the head, the blow causing death. A third supposition, or rather suspicion, was that

during the short time that Miller was guarded by McKiernon, the master, the latter had struck the hated man a fatal blow on the head, and then had thrown him overboard and that to avoid suspicion in the morning he had told the marshal that while on guard he had fallen asleep and that on awakening he had discovered that Miller was gone. Any of these reports might have been true, as Miller was kept upon the hurricane deck where no other person was at night except his guard. But after learning all I could and after the friends of Seth Concklin in Philadelphia had sent a deputation to Paducah to ascertain all possible as to his death and burial, I regarded the last opinion as the most plausible. The following facts led to this belief. It was said, but upon what authority I do not remember, that McKiernon had promised to pay the United States marshal one thousand dollars on condition that he would return the fugitives and the man Miller at South Florence, Alabama. As at Paducah Miller was found dead, and as the four slaves were in the possession of the master in his own state, he had no more need of the marshal, who now returned to Evansville. Report said moreover that McKiernon and the marshal had quarreled about the money promised, the former refusing to pay because Miller had not been returned according to contract; this probably had not been written. Then the supposition was inferred that in order to have revenge upon the man who had taken away his property, and to get rid of the payment of the one thousand dollars, he had taken a bludgeon or something and had struck the fatal blow on the head of Miller, and then threw him overboard, expecting to escape detection as all were fast asleep and none could testify to the facts which would condemn the murderer."

Were all of the experiences of David Stormont available for publication, they would form a chain of thrilling narrative with true dramatic quality. But, unfortunately, many of these incidents have been lost, and there remain but few scattering tales regarding the days when Stormont kept a station house, and relayed runaway negroes toward the north.

The log home of David Stormont was continually watched by suspicious slave owners who had come North in pursuit of their negroes, and also the wolves, the Christian wolves as they were called, hovered near the Stormont premises to get damaging evidence against the station keeper. When returning from church Stormont was often conscious of men following him at a discreet distance. And it was well for the men that they should observe discretion in their movements, as it was the habit of Daniel Stormont to carry a gun along with his Bible when he went to church, and could use one as readily as the other. Mrs. Stormont kept a tea-kettle of boiling water

at hand constantly, with which she intended to blind anybody who attempted to enter their home.

While wandering about in the woods nearby one day David Stormont stepped over the brow of a hill and perceived in the valley below a group of men, Southerners, with their horses picketed near them. Their close proximity to his home could mean but one thing—that his house was being watched at night, if not even in danger of an open attack. Hurrying home, he apprised his wife of the danger, and the two made preparations to resist. All through the night Stormont sat at an open window, with his guns at hand, and his wife with him to load them as fast as he fired. No attack was made, but the howling and barking of the dogs on the outskirts of his farm all night was evidence conclusive that men prowled around all through the night hours.

Slave hunters frequently stopped at Stormont's and inquired as to his help to runaways. He replied invariably that he would "clothe the naked, and feed the hungry." Indeed he did this and more. To obtain provisions and clothes for the negroes without arousing suspicion was a delicate task. A pair of shoes one place, trousers at another, and small purchases of foodstuffs at different stores was the only way he could be reasonably safe from exposure. He always sent his visitors to Vincennes, with instructions to look for Sugar Loaf Hill, where the next station might be found. Often Mr. Stormont kept the slaves at his home for several days, and when he did he let them work on his acres. One time several negroes were working in the fields when their master passed by the road running alongside, and at another time two negroes were in Stormont's back yard, when the master called at Stormont's front door for a drink of water. Often spies came, generally one or two colored men and one white man, pretending that they were escaped from the South. Stormont was a man of strong intuition and deep insight into characters; deception was an open book to him; and it was seldom or never that these spies were successful in learning anything of him.

To men of Stormont's type there is due much consideration for the brave and charitable part they played in the drama of those times. They received no remuneration for their services, only the knowledge that they were serving a noble cause. The work was dangerous, but not too dangerous for them to undertake, willingly and energetically.

## AN EXCITING SLAVE HUNT THWARTED BY BURSTING BOMBS.

In the "Pioneer History of Indiana," by Col. William M. Cockrum, of Oakland City, Indiana, the following narrative is taken: "Some time late in the summer of 1852 a man rode hurriedly into Princeton, Indiana, covered with dust and his horse in such a lather of sweat it showed evidence of hard riding. Tied to the back of his saddle were a large whip and several cords, and hanging to the horn were several pairs of handcuffs, and a brace of heavy revolvers belted around his waist outside his dusty coat. Altogether he was a fierce-looking fellow.

"Dismounting, he tied his horse to the court-yard rack and, hurrying to the south door of the old courthouse, put on the bulletin board a notice of three runaway negroes, offering a reward of five hundred dollars for their capture. After doing this he inquired for the best tavern and had his horse taken to the livery stable. He made inquiry if there was anyone who would be willing to help capture runaway slaves. Some time after he got to the tavern two gentlemen who were always boasting of the many times they had engaged in such work, called on him, offering their services to help him catch the runaways. The slave owner inquired about their experience in such business and they informed him that they had been in many such hunts. He told them they would do and if he got the negroes he would divide the reward, which was offered between five men; that all he wanted was their help in catching the rascals. He asked them who the other three men would be. There were several names mentioned to him of those who would be of good help in such an undertaking. They mutually agreed on the three men, when he enjoined them to secrecy. Only those going on the raid should know anything about what they intended to do. After this was arranged, it was agreed the first two men should come back to the tavern not later than four o'clock, to let him know if the three men selected could be depended on to go. By that time he could secure some needed rest and they would mature a plan of action for the coming night.

"The slave owner said that he felt certain the runaways would pass somewhere near Princeton during the early part of the night, and aim to cross the Patoka river and get as far on toward White river as they could before daylight. He thought it best to guard one or two bridges over the Patoka, and should they fail in capturing them he would organize a posse and picket White river at every point where it was thought likely they could cross. Pulling a small map from his pocket and looking over it for a short



time, he pointed out a route which he thought most likely they would follow. He pointed to Wheeling (Kirksville) as the place where he thought they would try to cross the Patoka river, and said that he would go to that point with the five men selected and watch that bridge.

"He authorized the two men if they could find any reliable persons to guard the Columbia bridge, for them to do so, as it might be possible that they would go that way. Bidding the two men good bye, he asked them to be prompt and report at the time named.

"That the reader may understand, I will state that the slave-hunting bullies had made themselves so obnoxious to many good people in and around Princeton, that this bogus slave hunt was inaugurated to teach them a needed lesson. The pretended slave owner was none other than an anti-slavery spy, and he had five confederates who were well acquainted with the country and the people. The ones selected to guard the Wheeling bridge were the most offensive ones in that business. The anti-slavery confederates had eight heavy bombs made at Kratz & Heilman's factory in Evansville, which would hold about three pounds of powder, each with a screw attachment so that a time fuse could be put into the powder.

"As soon as it was dark the five men, carrying the bombs, started two hours ahead of the brave negro catchers. The first two bombs were placed near the side of the road in a deep hollow about two and a half miles northeast of Princeton, the next two were placed about three-fourths of a mile from the Wheeling bridge, and the other four, two on each side of the bridge about sixty or seventy yards away. A man was left at each station to fire the fuse at the proper time, and the extra man nearly a hundred yards from the bridge down the river to command an imaginary battalion. These bombs were the real thing for a great noise.

"At four o'clock the two men were on hand and had the names of three men who would go out and watch the Columbia bridge; also said that the other men of their party would be ready at any time set for the start. The slaveowner said that he did not care to see the three men who were to go to the Columbia bridge, as he thought they had but little chance of success, and he authorized the two men to see that they went, and for them and the other three of their party to meet him on the north side of the seminary at one hour after night and they would go to the Wheeling bridge.

"The party all assembled on time and then took the Wheeling road to the northeast for the bridge. There had been an agreed signal between



the pretended slave owner and his confederates with the bombs, so he could locate their places, and when the bridge-watching party got to the deep hollow, Indian creek, a deep, loud voice some way to one side said, 'Who goes there?' The men stopped and listened for some time, but nothing more was heard. The leader turned to his posse and said, 'Did you let it be known that we were going on this hunt?' They all said that they had not. He rode around and called several times, but there was no response.

"They then rode ahead and after passing several miles came to where the second station was located, when from out of the woods to one side of the road, in a deep sounding voice, came the second challenge. 'Who goes there?' The party stopped and the leader said in a loud voice, 'Who are you, that you demand who we are?' He waited for some time, but there was no more sound heard. The leader, after locating the place well, turned to his men and asked if they thought it could be possible that the abolitionists would attempt to defeat their plans. They all said they did not think they had any idea of their movements. The leader said it was strange indeed that they should have been twice stopped by such an unearthly sound.

"They rode on in silence to the bridge, crossed over it and went on watch on the north side, keeping their horses close at hand so they could mount, if they needed to, in a moment, as the slaveowner told them the slaves would run and that there were two desperate characters in the lot. The brave slaveowner had them watch closely. He would walk up and down both banks of the river, pretending to be watching everything. Finally he came running up the bank and said, 'Boys, get on your horses. I am certain there is something going on. I heard a noise as of men slipping through the brush.' At this time one of his confederates called out, 'Halt! Dismount; let two men hold the horses; get into line. Shoulder arms!' At this time one of the bombs near the horses went off. The leader called, 'Get over the bridge, boys; the abolitionists will blow it down.' At this another bomb exploded near them. This put the horses in a fearful panic and they went across the bridge at a great gait.

"Soon the two bombs on the south side exploded. The men were on the go and it was a half mile before the leader could stop them. Shaming them for such cowardice, they stopped and listened, and hearing nothing, marched on to where the last voice was heard as they went to the bridge, and were listening there when the two bombs at this point were exploded within a few feet of them. After this there was no more halt, and the man who fired the two bombs at Indian creek said he could not tell that they went

any faster, as they were at top speed when they got to him. The leader tried to keep up, calling to them to stop. They did not heed him, for they had seen and heard enough for one night and ran all the way back to Princeton.

"In 1865 a captain of the One Hundred and Forty-third Indiana Regiment, who for years after the war lived at and near Francisco, Indiana, and later moved west, while seated on the capitol steps, at Nashville, Tennessee, gave me the data for the above story. He said he was never so thoroughly frightened in his whole life as when the big bombs commenced to go off; it sounded as though the infernal regions had broken loose. Who the five men were who had charge of the bombs he never could learn, but always believed that they lived in the Stormont and Carithers neighborhood northeast of Princeton. There is one fact certain, as he expressed it, it broke him of 'sucking eggs', and if any of the other four men ever attempted to catch a runaway negro afterwards, he never heard of it."

#### KIDNAPPING CASES.

The following extracts are taken also from Colonel Cockrum's "Pioneer History of Indiana":

In the fall and winter of 1863 I had the misfortune to be an inmate of Libby prison hospital with a wound made by a minie ball through my hip. There were at that time about one thousand Federal officers, from the rank of brigadier-general down to second lieutenant, in that prison. Among that number was Col. W. McMackin, of the Twenty-first Illinois, the regiment with which General Grant went into service. \* \* \* \* \* He learned where I lived and that the town of Princeton was near my home, and in talking together he related to me this strange story which took place some twenty-five years before:

He said he had gone to Princeton, Indiana, to meet Hiram Hunter, and had been there for quite a time doing some school work in the old brick seminary which stood on the hill, under Hunter or some other persons whom Hunter assigned to give him lessons in theology. During the time he was there he went out with the ministers to different churches in the country surrounding Princeton and heard the old ministers preach. At one time he attended a camp meeting some miles southwest of Princeton. There were many preachers and thousands of persons in attendance. While attending one of these meetings eight or ten miles southwest of Princeton there was a lengthy service at night and during the time the meeting was going on there was some rain and quite a flurry of wind. After the meeting was

over Rev. Hiram Hunter, who was in attendance, was invited by a gentleman who lived near to go home with him to spend the night. The Colonel, through Hunter, was also invited. They were all on horseback and Mr. Knowlton (no doubt Knowles) had his wife on the same horse back of him. They had gone some distance from the church when they found the road completely blocked by the top of a tree which had fallen. They all dismounted and crept around the tree top. On coming to the road on the other side they found a covered wagon which was stopped by the blockade. On coming up to it a man was seen standing in the road. Mr. Hunter was in front and asked the man how he came there with a covered wagon at such a time at night. The man answered him by saying that it was none of his business. Mr. Hunter was a determined man and it did not take much of this sort of thing to raise his anger. He said, "I spoke to you as a gentleman and your answer shows that you are an ill-bred cur. I am now satisfied that there is something wrong about you, and before we go any farther we will investigate." At this point another man appeared, who had been cutting a road around the other side of the tree and demanded to know what the trouble was. Mr. Hunter told him that there was no trouble, but they thought there was something wrong and intended to know what it was. At this the man with the axe said that the first man who attempted to lay hands on the wagon would lose his life. As quick as thought one of the stalwart sons of Mr. Knowlton, who were with the campmeeting party, caught the axe and wrenched it out of the threatening fellow's hand. The other man attempted to aid his partner, when the senior Mr. Knowlton laid him on his back in the road. The two boys tied the man they had and the father and Mr. Hunter drew the arms of the man who was knocked down behind his back, and Mr. McMackin tied them hard and fast with his handkerchief. The night was cloudy, but there was a moon, and it was not very dark. The timber was so very thick on each side of the narrow road that they could not see to any advantage. Matches at that time were not in general use. Mr. Knowlton told one of his sons to take his mother home, and bring back some material to make a torch. The young man was soon back with flint, steel and punk, and in short time they had a flaming torch. In the wagon they found a negro man and woman with their hands tied, fastened to a cross piece under the bottom of the wagon and a rope was tied in each of their mouths. They were soon liberated, but it was some time before they could stand or talk. They said they lived in Illinois, some miles west of Vincennes, Indiana, and they had been tied ever since the

latter part of the night before and had been gagged most of the time. They further said that they had crossed the Wabash at Mt. Carmel on the ferry; that they were free negroes and that these two men had come to their cabin the night before, after they had gone to bed, pretending to be lost, and asked the privilege of feeding their team near the house, saying they would sleep in their wagon, but if the negro woman would get them a good supper they would give her a silver dollar. She did so. Sometime after midnight they knocked at the door, saying they were cold in the wagon, and asking permission to lie on the floor. The door was opened and they caught and tied and put them in the wagon, nearly twenty-four hours before they were liberated.

The wagon was turned; the two kidnappers were made to walk behind it, guided by Hunter and Knowlton. One of the boys drove the team and they were soon home. After getting into the house they had an informal examination. The two negroes told the same story that they did at the wagon. The man knocked down was the first interrogated. He was very insolent and said he would make it dear business to them for stopping him and meddling with his property; that the two negroes were his, and he had a description of them which he showed. He said they had run away from southern Kentucky about two years before. The other kidnapper would not say anything. The stories of the negroes were believed, and it was decided to hold the men until morning and take all of them to Princeton where legal proceedings would be brought.

The first cabin of this family was standing in the yard. A pallet was made down on the floor, and the kidnappers were put on it. There were no windows and but one door which was fastened with a rope on the outside. The boys volunteered to occupy a room not more than ten feet away and guard the door. Somehow these outlaws untied each other and got out at the top of a wide, low chimney and made a break for the stables to get the horses, but the boys with their guns foiled them in this and they made a rush for the woods nearby, and thus escaped. That was the last these people ever heard of them. The next morning it was decided that Mr. Knowlton and a neighbor would take the negroes back to their home. The two men were well mounted and armed with long rifles, as everybody was in those days. They soon got started, the negroes driving the wagon. When they arrived in the neighborhood where the negroes lived, they learned that the team and wagon had been stolen about three miles north of their cabin, and that the negro family had lived in that neighborhood for more than twenty years.

## A BLUFF THAT FAILED TO WORK.

About the year 1851 an old negro man named Stephenson came to see the author's father, who was largely interested in farming, to have him keep his boys, one fourteen, one twelve and the other ten years old, for him until he could make arrangements to start for Liberia. This my father agreed to do. It was spring time and the boys helped with the work. Things went on that season and the old man had no chance to get away and work was well under way for the second season. Old man Stephenson had come to this country from South Carolina with Dr. Samuel McCullough about the middle of the forties. He was a free man, but married a slave and bought her freedom. They lived in the same neighborhood for years until his wife died. One evening, just as the work was over for the day, the colored boys were doing up the work around the barn. Two men rode up to the front of the house and called to the author's father, who was sitting on the porch, saying that they wanted to see him. They told him they had a description of three colored boys who were born in South Carolina who were slaves, and had called to see him about it, as they had learned he had three colored boys working for him.

These two fellows, no doubt had a confederate in the neighborhood who had given them a perfect description of the boys. My father talked to them a while, not having the least idea who they were, and evidently they did not know him or they would have been the last fellows to come there on such a mission. He excused himself to go into the house for something. They waited for him to return, which he did with his bear gun, "Old Vicksburg," in his hands.

They commenced to plead with him to let there be no difficulty. He told them that there was not the slightest danger of any trouble. He wanted them to see what sort of a machine he guarded the boys with, and said to them, "Do you see that little house?" pointing to a room in our yard. "The three boys sleep there, and if they are disturbed I will kill fifteen such worthless vagabonds as you are before you get them, fugitive law or any other law. And I want to say before I get mad that you had better go for you may get into danger." He cocked the big gun and said, "I feel it coming on—go and go quick."

They took him at his word and they went in a hurry. He waited until they had gone about seventy-five yards away when he turned loose on them, intending to shoot just above their heads. At the crack of that monster

gun they lay down on their horses' necks and made as good time as did the best mounted F. F. V. when Sheridan's cavalry was after them.

The boys remained with us for nearly three years before they got away to Liberia, and that was the last we ever heard of the men hunting for them.

HOW REUBE OBTAINED HIS FREEDOM—TREACHEROUSLY KIDNAPPED.

In 1817 William Barrett moved to this state from Tennessee, and settled in what is now southwestern Columbia township, Gibson county, Indiana. He had formerly lived in the state of South Carolina and moved from there to Tennessee in 1804.

Some years after they reached Indiana a negro man named Reube, who had formerly been a slave of Mrs. Jacob Sanders, but had been freed for having saved his master's life, came on from South Carolina with a relinquishment paper for Mrs. Barrett to sign for her part of her father's estate. Reube remained for nearly a year; the winter weather was too cold for him and he had determined to go back before another winter set in. John W. Barrett, a son of William, at that time a large gawky boy of about eighteen years old, and six feet eight inches tall, went with Reube on many fishing and hunting adventures. When it came time for Reube to start back, John took him over to Princeton and led the horse which he had ridden back home. Reube intended to go from there to Evansville with the first passing team that went that way.

The act which gave Reube his freedom was a heroic one. There was a maniac in that section of South Carolina, who at times became very desperate and was kept in confinement in such a place as the authorities had for that purpose. He was very sly and cunning, and stepping up back of Mr. Sanders pinioned his hands behind him and threw him on the ground, and with a large knife attempted to cut his throat. Reube being in the garden nearby, saw his master's peril and running up behind the maniac, struck him at the butt of his ear with a hoe and felled him to the ground. Mr. Sanders said, "Reube, from this day on you are a free man and I will at once make out your free papers." He told him to stay on the place if he wanted to, for as long a time as suited him, and he would pay him for all the work he did. The papers were made out and in giving him his freedom, a full history was given, and it was recorded. To make it certain that no one would disturb Reube, Mr. Sanders had a full history of the case engraved on a gold plate; also had a gold chain attached to the gold plate that went around his neck, so that it was easy at any time, if the patrol stopped

him, to show the certificate on the plate. Mr. Barrett's family heard nothing of Reube for two or three years. Finally Mr. Sanders wrote to his niece, Mrs. Barrett, asking her why Reube did not come back.

In 1832 Col James W. Cockrum bought the steamboat "Nile," and intended to run her up the Yazoo river and other small rivers to bring the cotton out and carry it to New Orleans. John W. Barrett, a brother-in-law, was made clerk of the boat and had charge of the freight. At one landing on the Yazoo river there was a large quantity of cotton to be loaded and the planters were still delivering from their farms. Young Barrett was on the deck tallying as the mate and deck hands were putting the cargo aboard when a colored man came near and said, "Mr. Barrett, don't you know me? I am Reube, who hunted with you in Indiana. Don't let on you know me." Barrett did know him and was greatly surprised at thus meeting him. Finally he got a chance and told Reube to roll a bale of cotton behind the cabin stairs. Reube told him that his master was on the bank and it was not safe for them to be seen talking together. The planter whom Reube called his master had a large amount of cotton and was watching the count of the bales and his slaves were helping to load it in order that they might finish before night. During the loading Barrett had several chances to say a word to Reube. There was a wood yard some miles below where the boat would stop to take on wood. Reube said he would be down there when the boat came, as it would be some hours after night, and when the boat was rounded to Reube was ready to load wood as soon as it was measured. Barrett watched his chance and took Reube down in the hold and secreted him there and looked after him. They got to New Orleans, unloaded the cotton, and took on a lot of government freight for the upper Arkansas river to one of the military outposts. Reube was still in hiding, no one but the clerk being aware of his presence on board.

While they were unloading the government freight, Barrett went to the commander of the fort and told the history of Reube and all about his being kidnapped and being sold into slavery to a Mississippi planter on the Yazoo river. As fortune would have it, the commander was a New England man and felt indignant at the outrageous treatment the poor negro had received, and assured Barrett that he would keep him in his employ at good wages until he had opportunity to send him back to South Carolina, which he did. About a year afterward the Barrett family received a letter from Mr. Sanders telling of Reube's arrival home. John W. Barrett told me in 1854, the last time he was ever in Indiana, that after he left Reube at Prince-



ton, he had no opportunity to get away to Evansville until about the middle of the next day. He was making inquiry of some people if they knew of any teams which were going to Evansville. Reube was very fond of showing his gold certificate of freedom; finally two men told him they were going to Evansville that evening, but they could not get away before the middle of the afternoon and made an agreement that he could go with them by cooking for them on the road and after they got there. Reube readily agreed to this since they told him that they had some thought of going to Tennessee.

They finally started, and after staying a day or so at Evansville, which was then only a small place, they started on the Tennessee trip. They made it convenient to go west in Tennessee and on to Memphis. They told Reube, to whom they had been very kind, that in a day or so they would go to North Carolina, and in doing so would pass near his home if he wanted to go with them, but the next place they went to was the Yazoo river. There they took Reube's gold plate and papers from him and sold him to the planter with whom Barrett found him.

#### MONTGOMERY TO THE RESCUE.

Harvey Montgomery was the seventh child of Judge Isaac Montgomery. I was a young boy when I knew him best and he was my ideal of an upright Christian gentleman. He lived with his father at his home two miles southeast of Oakland City, Indiana, until he married. He then settled on a quarter section, just north of his father, where he spent his life.

At one time Harvey and Joseph, who was the third child of Judge Montgomery, and a hand working for them named McDeeman, had two loads of produce, venison, hams, hides and bear bacon, which they were taking to Robert Stockwell at Princeton. Joseph at that time lived on what was afterward the Richey farm, about one-half mile west of his father's. He was a very large man and was known far and near as one of the strongest men, physically, who ever lived in that section.

As they were getting within about two miles of Princeton, and after climbing a hill, they stopped to let their ox teams rest, when they heard a loud noise as of men in a wrangle. Joseph and McDeeman left Harvey with the teams and, taking their guns, went to find out what the noise was about. When they got to the parties making the noise, they found two negroes handcuffed together and a white man beating one of the negroes with a heavy stick.

Montgomery, who was fearless as strong, with McDeeman, rushed up to



the place where the trouble was and asked the man with the club what in "hades" he meant by beating the man with such a bludgeon. There were two white men and one of them became very insulting, telling Montgomery they were beating their own property and it was none of his business. One of the negroes cried out, "Oh, that is Mr. Montgomery. Don't you know me? I am Pete who kept your camp at the Bear's den."

Montgomery did know him. The bully had the club drawn back to hit Pete, when Montgomery leapt like a panther and hit the fellow at the butt of the ear and completely knocked him out. At this, the other kidnapper started to draw a large knife, when McDeeman, who was a full fledged Irishman, raised his gun and said, "On your worthless life don't move your hand. If you so much as bat your eye, I will shoot it out of your head." They took the key away from them, freed the negroes, put the handcuffs on the kidnappers, gave the two negroes the clubs and marched the two men up to the wagons and on into Princeton. Montgomery tried to have the kidnappers put into jail until court would set. The old justice before whom they brought their proceedings was thoroughly in sympathy with slavery, and he virtually there made the same decision that Chief Justice Taney did thirty years afterward. It was as follows:

"There is no evidence that the two men kidnapped the negroes, except the statement made by the negroes. The evidence of a negro has no force in court, which could affect a white man."

They were set at liberty. They were so much elated over being freed from the charge that they proceeded to fill up with whisky and hunted up Montgomery and raised a quarrel with him, but he gave both of them such a thrashing that they were glad to get away.

#### ANOTHER KIDNAPPING OUTRAGE.

In 1822 two negro men came to what is now the city of Princeton hunting for work. They hired by Gen. William Embree to work on a farm two or three miles west of Princeton that he owned. They were good hands and worked on the same farm for two years, living in a small log cabin and doing their own culinary work. One of the men could read and write and often borrowed books to read from people in Princeton. When the work season was over they put in most of their time in hunting for game which was very abundant.

The summer's work for the second year was over and the men were gone hunting. One morning late in the summer some one found tacked on

the cabin door a short note saying they had gone to the Ohio river to cut cord wood until the corn would do to gather, and this was the last time they were ever seen on the farm.

Some years later General Embree was in the city of New Orleans and found these two men working on the levee rolling freight. They told him that two men whom they had seen several times in Princeton, came to their cabin early in the evening and handcuffed them and by daylight the next morning they were at the Ohio river, which they crossed on a raft into Kentucky, going down to Henderson. After waiting a few days a boat came and they were carried to New Orleans where they were sold into slavery.

Mr. Embree went to a lawyer and told his story and had proceedings brought to liberate the two negroes. The investigation developed that they were sold into slavery to James Lockwell by two men named Absalom Tower and Thomas Slaven and they had for more than three years been the property of Lockwell. As no complaint had been made during that time, the judge refused to release them.

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As before stated, the foregoing kidnapping stories are from Colonel Cockrum's Pioneer History of Indiana. They are reproduced in this publication for the purpose of preserving in a history of Gibson county a record of outrages incident to slavery, perpetrated under the law, and sanctioned by the courts of those states. These stories might be multiplied by the score not only in Gibson county but in almost every county in the state. Under the decision of the highest court a negro had no rights that a white man was bound to respect, not even the right of personal possession of himself after he had paid the price. The crimes that were committed under the operation of the fugitive slave law, crimes against justice and humanity and sanctioned by courts, higher and lower, is a stain upon the pages of the nation's history, a stain that required the blood of multiplied thousands of her best citizens to erase, in the resulting civil war. Some of these crimes were committed in Gibson county, and her citizens, in some measure, were ready to give consent and encouragement to them. In a much larger measure was demanded the blood of some of the best of her sons, as a requital for the sins of the fathers.

## CHAPTER XVII.

### PATRIOTIC ORDERS OF GIBSON COUNTY.

After the close of the Civil War the armies, that had fought in that war to its successful conclusion, were disbanded and the soldiers returned to their homes to resume the vocations of civil life. But the fraternal tie that had been welded in the fire of battle was not severed by the disbanding of companies and regiments. There was a spirit of comradeship infused in the hearts and lives of those who had touched elbows in the line of battle and who had shared in the privations and hardships of the camp and weary march, that was not dispelled by the separation and the laying aside of military equipments. There was a desire to maintain and perpetuate this fraternity and comradeship, and this desire soon found expression in a movement for an organization of veterans of the Civil war. Many organizations of companies and regiments were formed and reunions held in various localities, and the enjoyment found in thus meeting comrades suggested a larger and more permanent organization of state and national character. From this suggestion the Grand Army of the Republic had its beginning.

Dr. B. F. Stevenson, a surgeon in the volunteer service, living in Springfield, Illinois, was among the first to suggest the organization of the Grand Army of the Republic. At first there was little formality about the organization. There was no post or place of assembly and very little ceremony in the initiation of members. There was simply the giving of the grip and countersign and the subscribing to an obligation. While this beginning of the Grand Army was crude and informal, it suggested the possibilities of a permanent and effective organization. It suggested the idea of a ritual and a constitution, with rules and regulations and other things necessary for effective work.

It was sometime during the year 1866 that Dr. Stevenson prepared the manuscript for the first ritual, rules and regulations for the Grand Army, on the suggestion of Governor Oliver P. Morton, of Indiana. It was through the instrumentality of Governor Morton that this was printed and put into shape for effective use, and it was first used for the muster and organization

of posts in Indiana. The first department organized under this constitution was the Department of Indiana.

An organization of the Grand Army, or rather a start for such an organization, was made in Princeton in August, 1866. This organization was made in the informal manner already stated. Among those who were instrumental in starting this primitive Grand Army were Col. James T. Embree, Capt. William M. Duncan, Capt. Frank Embree, Lieut. Robert M. McMaster, the writer of this sketch, and several others.

It was sometime in the early part of 1867 before there was an effort made to organize a post in Princeton under the new ritual and constitution, and the first muster of recruits and the first post organization was made by Major-Gen. Nathan Kimball, then department commander of Indiana. The meeting was held in the old court house and there was quite a large attendance of the boys, many of whom had but recently exchanged their suit of blue for one of civilian style. A good many of those present on this occasion had taken the obligation under the old form and it was not required of them that they should come in by the ritual route. They were entitled to seats on the ground floor and enjoy whatever there was of entertainment in this first muster of recruits. And there was entertainment in abundance, as can be verified by any who were fortunate enough to occupy ground floor seats.

The paraphernalia and necessary appointments for initiation ceremonies under the old ritual was of a character to make one's hair stand on end if he should unexpectedly meet the outfit on a dark night all alone. That old-fashioned gable-roof coffin, with the grinning skeleton lying therein, was not the most cheerful sight one might desire to see while going through a dark and lonely woods. The provisions for muster of recruits under the old ritual were intended to be profoundly solemn and impressively scary. This was the effect produced sometimes, but not always. Sometimes the effect was otherwise and very funny. In this first muster in the old court house the funny business prevailed, as will be easily understood by those who remember the characteristics of George W. Harrington, at that time a resident of Princeton. George officiated as one of the guards at this first muster and escorted the recruits through the various mysteries of initiation. The recruits, being blindfolded, were expected to feel that there was something very solemn about the ceremony, especially when they were required to kneel by that coffin. But if they could have had a peep through their blinds long enough to have seen some of the antics of George Harrington they would have had a different opinion as to the deep solemnity of the occasion.

This first Grand Army post was duly organized in accordance with that old ritual, with D. Frank Embree as post commander, W. M. Duncan as adjutant. They secured a suitable place to hold their meetings in a room over the Small hardware store, on the east side of the public square, and the order prospered for a year or more, increasing in membership to about one hundred and fifty.

There was quite an interest in the organization of posts of the Grand Army throughout the state and in other states about this time and the membership of the order increased rapidly during the years 1867 and 1868. But there was a decline in the years following and the organization was on the wane. This was largely on account of politics, which was a predominant feature of the order at that time, and it was intended to be such by those who were chiefly instrumental in the formation of its constitution and ritual. It was, in fact, largely in control of some who were allied with one of the leading political parties of that time and easily degenerated into a political machine, operated and controlled by designing politicians for selfish purposes. Of course such an organization would find no favor among soldiers who were inclined to affiliate with any other political party, and was not in the favor of many whose sympathies and affiliations were with the party largely controlling the organization. A secret political organization, however worthy its purpose or its individual membership, can never be a permanent success, or have the approval of true and loyal American citizens.

A few of the posts in this and other states maintained their organization during these years of decline and these formed the nucleus for the greater Grand Army of the Republic that the world knows today. Wiser heads gathered in council, a new constitution and ritual, and new regulations were prepared by which politics was absolutely prohibited in the order. Fraternity, charity and loyalty were made the cardinal principles, the "broad foundation stone on which the order rests." These new rules and regulations, with the revised and more sensible ritual, were adopted in the early seventies and met with the approval of the intelligent soldier citizens, and from that time the Grand Army took on new life. It increased in membership rapidly from that time until it became the greatest semi-military organization the world has ever known, commanding the respect of citizens regardless of party, creed or nationality.

The Grand Army post in Princeton, organized under the old regulations, was affected by the unwise policy that controlled the order and the post went into decline about 1868 or 1869. No meetings were held, the records of the post were scattered or lost, the paraphernalia of initiation, including the gable-

roofed coffin with the skeleton, were knocked about in the old post room for a time and finally disappeared. And this was the ending of the first Grand Army post in Princeton.

There was one duty, however, that the soldiers of the Civil War had taken upon themselves that was not permitted to fall into decline. That was the custom of decorating with flowers the graves of deceased comrades on the 30th day of May each year. This custom was inaugurated the year after the close of the war, by a few of the soldiers and their friends, informally, going to the cemetery with baskets of flowers. This became more of a formal ceremony after the organization of the Grand Army, when there was a procession with the band leading to the cemetery. Then a return to the court house yard where appropriate speeches were made. When this first Grand Army post was disbanded the custom of decorating soldiers' graves was not wholly neglected, but for the lack of some organization to take charge of the arrangements they were not always as appropriate and seemly as the solemnity of the occasion would require. For instance, the Decoration day services held May 30, 1882.

On that occasion the following program was carried out: Prayer by Rev. J. E. Jenkins; addresses by T. R. Paxton, M. W. Fields, R. M. J. Miller and others. Then the procession was formed, headed by the Princeton band, and marched to the cemetery where the soldiers' graves were decorated by a company of little girls. Then they marched back to the court house square, where the procession was disbanded. This was all very well so far. But in the evening it is noted that there was a lawn festival given on the court house square, under the auspices of somebody with more enthusiasm than sense of propriety. That this was true was evidenced by a display of fire works, toy balloons, and other Fourth of July incidents, as a part of the evening's entertainment. This sort of entertainment, as a finale to the day set apart as sacred to the memory of soldiers who had died for their country, was not the most pleasing to their friends. To those who had a proper conception of the day this order of hilarity had too much the semblance of the traditional Irish wake.

The impropriety of this manner of observing Memorial day was remarked by all who had a proper conception of its sacred character, and this, no doubt, had something to do with turning the thoughts of the soldiers to the necessity of reorganizing the Grand Army post. The need of such an organization in charge of Memorial day services was plainly evident if the purpose for which the day was instituted was to be maintained. So, in the latter part of 1882, steps were taken in accordance with this idea. Appli-

cation was made to Gen. James R. Carnahan, then the department commander, for a charter, which was promptly granted, and an order given to Major A. C. Rosencrans, of Evansville, to muster the post at the convenience of both parties.

Accordingly, on the night of January 13, 1883, Major Rosencrans, with a number of comrades from Farragut Post, Evansville, came to Princeton and organized the post with the following charter members: Byron Mills, Gil R. Stormont, James J. Hartin, Theodore M. Bucklin, Silas M. Holcomb, Samuel J. Wallace, James A. Sprowl, John E. Spencer, Samuel Sterne, Francis M. Grigsby, Solomon Vannada, John Turnage, Albert Mills, Henry P. Chambers, Joseph R. Ashmead, Alex. H. Anderson, William A. Munford, D. Hamilton Turner, William J. Cameron, Samuel S. Shannon, Renwick C. Woods, James A. Mowery, Alex. N. Devin, Joseph C. Hartin, Andrew J. Carithers, Pressly R. Baldrige, John J. Hollis, B. Frank Taylor, Joseph D. McClure, A. D. Green, William M. Duncan, William B. Whitsett.

The objects of the Grand Army, as set forth in its constitution and fully subscribed to by the charter members of this post and all who have since become members, are:

First. To preserve and strengthen those kind and fraternal feelings which bind together the soldiers, sailors and marines, who united to suppress the Rebellion.

Second. To assist such former comrades in arms as need help and protection, and to extend needful aid to the widows and orphans of those who have fallen.

Third. To maintain true allegiance to the United States of America, based upon a paramount respect for and fidelity to the national constitution and the laws; to discountenance whatever tends to weaken loyalty, incites to insurrection, treason or rebellion, or in any way impairs the efficiency and permanency of our free institutions; and to encourage the spread of universal liberty, equal rights and justice to all men.

Officers were elected at this meeting and other necessary action taken for a permanent organization. The post was numbered 28, the same as the number of the former post, and chose for its name and designation Archer Post No. 28, Department of Indiana, Grand Army of the Republic.

The selection of the name of Archer Post was most appropriate and commendable. William Archer, after whom the post was named, was one of the many young men of Gibson county who responded to the call of their country in the early period of the Civil war. He enlisted as a private in Company A, Eightieth Indiana Regiment, and was soon promoted to first



lieutenant of his company. He participated in all the battles and skirmishes in which his regiment was engaged during the years 1862 and 1863, and was killed in the line of duty at the battle of Resaca, May 14, 1864. His patriotism and courage were conspicuous and his example as a soldier was worthy of the highest commendation.

In the manner of William Archer's death the cardinal principles of the Grand Army are most strikingly exemplified. The command to which his regiment belonged had just made a very disastrous assault on the Confederate works before Resaca and was compelled to retire to a place of shelter from the enemy's murderous fire. Immediately in front of Archer's regiment a comrade of his company was lying seriously wounded and piteously crying for water. Archer could not resist the call of his suffering comrade and at the risk of his own life went to him with water. It was a fatal mission. A deadly minie ball from the enemy's lines pierced his body and in a few moments he was numbered with the heroic dead that lay upon the bloody battle field of Resaca. Thus he exemplified in his life and in his death the noble virtues of fraternity, charity and loyalty, the broad foundation stone upon which the order rests. This post honored his memory and honored itself when it chose for its official title and inscribed upon its banner the name, "Archer Post".

The officers of the post who served during the first year were: Gil. R. Stormont, post commander; Joseph R. Ashmead, senior vice-commander; W. J. Cameron, junior vice-commander; W. M. Duncan, quartermaster; Rev. M. M. C. Hobbs, chaplain; Henry P. Chambers, officer of the day; John Turnage, officer of the guard; J. C. Hartin, adjutant; Alex N. Devin, sergeant-major; Sol. Vannada, quartermaster-sergeant.

During the first year after organization a large number of applications for membership were received and the muster-in service was a very prominent feature of the regular meetings. The membership of the post was increased that year to something near one hundred. The same year posts were established at Fort Branch, Patoka, Oakland City and other places in the county.

The first Memorial day observance under the auspices of Archer Post was a notable one, notwithstanding the rain storm that prevailed during the entire day. An elaborate program had been prepared and every arrangement made to set a high mark for the proper observance of the day. With a few exceptions, these arrangements were carried out in spite of the rain and the observance of this day was a marked success. And this may be said of all the Memorial days since that time. Whether in rain or in sunshine, the



graves of soldiers in all adjoining cemeteries have had a tribute of flowers from the hands of members of Archer Post.

A brief mention of some of the incidents pertaining to the history of the post since its organization will be of interest :

At a special meeting of the post, May 14, 1883, a flag was presented to the Post by William Archer, on behalf of his father, after whom the post was named. This was on the anniversary of the day on which the father was killed at Resaca.

The first death in the post was that of James Anderson, of the Eightieth Indiana, which occurred in November, 1883. The post attended his funeral in a body and conducted the first ritual exercises at the grave. At the request of Comrade Anderson before his death, John Ayers, the color bearer of his regiment, attended the funeral and carried the post flag. In December of this same year the second death in the post occurred, that of Hugh Daugherty, who was also a member of the Eightieth Indiana.

It seems that the usual rain did not occur on Memorial day, 1884, and the exercises of the day were carried out without interference of weather. There was a large procession to the cemetery, headed by the Princeton band and the Post drum corps. Rev. M. M. C. Hobbs was the principal speaker at the exercises in the court house yard.

On the evening of May 15, 1885, a meeting was held in the post hall in commemoration of the battle of Resaca. At this meeting addresses appropriate to the occasion were made by Capt. Vesper Dorneck, Capt. J. S. Epperson, George W. Hill, H. Clay Wilkinson and Dr. W. P. Welborn.

At a meeting of the post in July, 1885, there was presented a gavel made from the limb of a pine tree near Jonesboro, Georgia. This tree was used as a signal station by the signal corps of Sherman's army at the time of the battle there. The wood from which the gavel was made was procured by Samuel Reavis while on a visit to the battle field, and the presentation was made by Captain Dorneck. In accepting the gavel, the post commander assured the donor that it would be sacredly kept and used while the post maintained its existence. As it turned out, this assurance was a wrong guess. In less than one year from that time the post hall and all its contents, including this gavel, were destroyed by fire, but the post has continued to exist.

In August, 1885, the memorial meeting in honor of Gen. U. S. Grant, held in the United Presbyterian church, was a notable event. It was the largest assemblage of the kind ever held in the town. The exercises were under the auspices of the Grand Army and were appropriate to the occasion.

On January 13, 1887, a memorial service was held in the post hall in

honor of Gen. John A. Logan. The principal addresses were made by M. W. Fields, A. P. Twineham and Rev. J. E. Jenkins.

On February 3, 1887, a camp fire was held in the post hall, at which General Shackelford, of Evansville, gave an account of the pursuit and capture of John Morgan, which was participated in by Shackelford.

In the month of January, 1886, the post met with a serious disaster in the loss of its hall and all the contents by fire. This loss included all the records of the post, the furniture and equipments of the hall, the drums belonging to the post and about fifty stand of arms. But this disaster did not discourage the members. Another meeting place was secured until arrangement could be made for permanent quarters.

At the department encampment, held in Indianapolis, February, 1890, Archer Post was honored by the election of one of its members as department commander. Gil R. Stormont, who brought this honor to the post, was tendered a reception on his return from the encampment. On this occasion the department colors were exhibited for the first time in the post hall, by Henry P. Chambers, who had been appointed color bearer by the newly-elected department commander.

The dedication of the new hall, which had been fitted up in the Henry Soller block, was an important event in 1890. This occurred May 15th of that year and the record says the hall was crowded to suffocation on that occasion. Addresses were made by Governor Ira J. Chase, Col. I. N. Walker, of Indianapolis, Mrs. H. M. Caylor, of Noblesville, department president of the Woman's Relief Corps, and others.

Memorial day, 1891, occurred during the meeting of the United Presbyterian assembly in Princeton, and the public exercises of the day were marked by some very able addresses made by delegates in attendance.

Another incident of note in this year was the presentation of a diamond badge to Past Department Commander Gil R. Stormont by a committee appointed by the department encampment for that purpose. This event took place in the post hall, under the auspices of the post, June 15th, and the presentation was made by Governor Ira J. Chase. Other members of the committee who were present and made addresses were Col. I. N. Walker, then department commander; Major Charles M. Travis, a past department commander; Major Irvin Robbins, of Indianapolis; Ben Starr, of Richmond, and others from Evansville.

The following is a list of the post commanders of Archer Post since the organization and the years in which they served:

Gil. R. Stormont.....	1883	1885	1898
Henry P. Chambers.....	1884	1891	
James S. Epperson .....	1886	1887	1893
Vesper Dorneck .....	1888		
Solomon Vannada .....	1889		
James J. Hartin.....	1890		
Joseph C. Hartin.....	1892		
Frank M. Grigsby.....	1894		
Henry M. Lamb.....	1895	1896	
Hugh T. Carlisle.....	1897		
Charles C. Whiting.....	1899	1900	1901
William M. Duncan.....	1902	1903	
Hugh Hanna .....	1904	1905	
D. Wilson Smith.....	1906		
James A. Sprowl.....	1907		
John M. Stormont.....	1908	1909	
Joseph K. McGary.....	1910		
W. J. Lowe.....	1911		
James W. Lewis.....	1912		
Arthur P. Twineham.....	1913		
George W. Shopbell.....	1914		

For a few years after the organization of the post new members were added to the roll at every meeting, but this increase in membership was offset by those who had come into the order in the early years of its history and had grown indifferent, and had allowed themselves to become delinquent in dues. According to the rules of the order the names of such were dropped from the rolls, and at one time the list of suspended and dropped members was almost as large as the active list. Then, as the years passed, there was a continual depletion of the membership by death. But, notwithstanding these losses, Archer Post has always had a strong guard of the faithful to hold up its banner. It has always held its regular meetings with a fair average attendance, and has always been ready to minister to the wants of needy comrades, and has always been ready to turn out in a body and pay appropriate tribute to comrades who have answered the last roll call. It has always been careful to give proper observance to Memorial day and has commanded the respect and approbation of the community in its conduct and deportment in this and in all other public services.

In the later years there has been a decided revival of interest in the

Grand Army, and Archer Post has been affected by this revival. As the years go by, and as the Grand Army seems to be marching with quickened steps toward the place of final encampment, as comrades, one by one, are dropping from the ranks, there is manifested a desire for a closer fellowship and association for those who remain. Those who may have been indifferent as to this association in the earlier period of the Grand Army have come to the belief that there is a reality in the tie that binds comrades one to another. As a result of this belief, Archer Post has had restored to membership all those who had been suspended or dropped, and there has been a large number enrolled of those who have not before sought membership in the order.

On the 13th of January, 1908, Archer Post celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary with a free supper to all its members in good standing. At that time it was said the post had a larger membership than it ever had in history; that, with a few exceptions, it had on its rolls all who were eligible to membership within its jurisdiction. Quite a number who participated in the quarter-centennial celebration and rejoiced in the happy conditions and fraternal feeling that prevailed, have since passed to the beyond. The ranks have been thinned by death, but some of the vacant places have been filled with new recruits and the fraternal spirit grows stronger with the passing years.

At the quarter-centennial celebration a camp fire was held in the Kidd opera house, at which an interesting program of exercises was given. Rev. Daniel Ryan, past department commander, made the principal address. There was also an address of historical character by Past Department Commander Stormont, covering the history of the post from its organization. The closing part of this address follows:

"The review of the history of Archer Post for the past quarter of a century, and the present view of its healthy condition, affords occasion for hopefulness and cheer for the future. Certainly there is ground for belief that its days of usefulness are not yet within the shadows of the setting sun. There is much of strength and vitality in the organization and in the individual membership, and there is still a call to duty and to service. It is a call not only to the duty of aiding needy and distressed comrades, of helping others to bear the burdens of life, but also of teaching by influence and example the principles of right living.

"Amid the smoke and leaden hail of battle conflict the Grand Army set a high standard of patriotism and courage, and when the conflict was ended they received their discharge with the plaudits of the nation which was saved

by their valor. Since those days of conflict the Grand Army has not lowered the standard of patriotism and it has continued to receive the approval of a nation redeemed and regenerated.

"The honor of having been a soldier of the Republic is an honor not to be lightly regarded, and it should be the endeavor of each soldier to magnify that honor by living an honorable and upright life as a citizen. Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report, if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

"Whether the life be long or short, whether for any comrade of the Grand Army present the last roll call shall come this week, or this year, or for many years, let this sentiment be the resolve of each:

"I live for those who love me,  
Whose hearts are kind and true,  
For the right that lacks assistance,  
For the wrong that needs resistance,  
For the future in the distance,  
And the good that I can do."

A. H. COCKRUM POST NO. 520, OAKLAND CITY.

A. H. Cockrum Post, Grand Army of the Republic, at Oakland City, was organized by Gil. R. Stormont, September 20, 1887, with the following charter members: Ira Castetter, Eph Christmas, F. M. Langford, John T. Benton, Abe Cole, James Kilmartin, Henry C. Vickers, James M. Reavis, Alvin T. Lett, Francis M. Black, Charles W. Abram, Joseph Beck, Henry Barton, William Myers, Asa Turpin, Wiley J. Baldwin, William M. Moreland, James M. Cockrum, James Hord, John McFarland.

This post increased rapidly in membership for the first few years, enrolling the most of those who were eligible in the town and vicinity. As the years passed the ranks were depleted as the comrades, one after another, dropped out, to be enrolled in that greater Grand Army beyond. There are still a faithful few who remain to maintain the organization and the regular meetings are well attended.

The following have served the post as commanders since the organization:

James M. Cockrum-----	1887	1888	
John McFarland -----	1889	1891	1893
Ephraim Christmas -----	1890		
James Kilmartin -----	1892	1895	1897
James Reavis -----	1894	1901	
Norman Taylor -----	1896		
D. J. King-----	1898		
L. O. Emmerson-----	1899		
James L. Stewart-----	1900		
Adam Young -----	1902		
Hiram Robinson -----	1903		
W. A. Harper-----	1904		
J. V. Gillum-----	1905		
Zadok M. McCleary-----	1906	to	1914

#### STEPHEN MEAD POST NO. 187, FORT BRANCH.

Stephen Mead Post, Grand Army of the Republic, was organized at Fort Branch in 1883, with the following charter members: Silas M. Holcomb, Elias Lambert, John T. Dickson, Isaac H. Myers, William J. Lowe, Hugh D. McGary, John W. Yeager, Golston S. Wilson, James Crilley, Casper Gram, Benjamin F. Robinson, John W. Carter, Charles Mead, William T. Stilwell, Chesley F. Garrison, Robert Onyet, Samuel Anderson, William J. Woods, Elisha L. Pritchett, Michael Robinson, Charles F. Abel, W. Gary Hopkins, David Korte, Anthony Alsop, David B. Butler, Joseph K. McGary, William A. Preston, William H. Pritchett.

Since the organization this post has met with misfortunes of various kinds, one of the most serious being the loss of their records and post property by fire. This loss included their original charter and other valuable papers, so that it is impossible to give an accurate history of the organization. But it can be said that, notwithstanding the adverse fortunes they have experienced, there have been enough members of loyal and patriotic spirit to maintain the organization and keep their flag afloat. The following have served as post commanders since the organization: S. M. Holcomb, W. T. Stilwell, Henry Hamilton, Casper Gram, T. A. Walters, John E. Ruston, B. F. Stewart, John A. Ewin, August Rodeman, C. F. Garrison, William Hickrod.

## THE WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS.

The Woman's Relief Corps came into existence as a national organization in 1885 as the recognized auxiliary of the Grand Army of the Republic. This order met with popular favor and increased rapidly in membership from the start, and has continued to grow ever since. All loyal women are eligible to membership in this order, and, unlike the Grand Army, the eligible list from which recruits can be gathered to maintain and perpetuate the Woman's Relief Corps is unlimited and inexhaustible.

The object of this organization, as indicated by the title, an auxiliary of the Grand Army, is to assist in the relief of needy and distressed soldiers, their widows and orphans, and they have done and are doing noble work along this line.

Archer Corps No. 31, Woman's Relief Corps, auxiliary to Archer Post, Grand Army of the Republic, was organized in Princeton, June 23, 1887, with the following charter members: Martha B. Craig, Clara K. Braselton, Kate Keys Stormont, Mary L. Pumphrey, Jennie Daugherty, Ellen Epperson, Sophrona Snow, Melinda J. Warnock, Kate W. Small, Anna Bucklin, Maria T. Brownlee, Anna M. Stokes, Julia T. Duncan, Ophelia Mowery, Lillie J. Posey, Lillie Bucklin, Jennette Kern, Sarah Hollis, Mary E. Witherspoon, Emma Reavis, Mary L. Daugherty, Jessie K. Hartin, Sarah C. McGary.

Those who have served as presidents of Archer Corps since the organization are as follows:

Martha B. Craig -----	1887	1888	1889				
Mary Wright -----	1890						
Kate Sterne -----	1891						
Julia T. Duncan -----	1892	1893					
Kate K. Stormont ----	1894	1895					
Mary L. Pumphrey----	1896	1897					
Syren W. Scott -----	1898						
Anna Stilwell -----	1900						
Clara K. Braselton----	1901	1902					
Anna V. Bucklin -----	1903	1904	1907	1910	1911	1914	
H. Gertrude Lawrence--	1908	1909					
Martha L. Sprowl ----	1912						
Clara B. Simpson ----	1913						

## SOCIETY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

The Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution was organized in Washington, D. C., October 11, 1890. It has for its object the perpetuation of the memory of those who achieved American independence, the collection of relics of earlier American days, the protection of historical spots, the encouragement of historical research in relation to the Revolution, and by the preservation of the records of individual services of Revolutionary soldiers and patriots. The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution has members in every state and nearly every territory of the Union. The society as a whole has a charter granted by the Congress of the United States, a national constitution, a national treasury, and the governing body, the continental congress. Formal organization of the society occurred on October 11, 1890, and the dark blue and white of Washington's staff was chosen for the society's colors. The design of a golden spinning-wheel was chosen for a badge. The first chapter was formed in Chicago, Illinois.

## THE PRINCETON CHAPTER, D. A. R.

While the movement looking to the organization of a chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Princeton was agitated for some time prior to 1911, it was not until the summer of that year that the matter of such an organization began to take effective shape. In response to a call, several of those who were members of the order in other chapters met with Miss Luella Johnson and decided to proceed to the organization of a local chapter. A formal organization was effected November 25, 1911, but it was not until February 4, 1912, that the first regular meeting was held. Prior to this meeting Miss Johnson had been elected regent; Mrs. Kate Keys Stormont, vice-regent; Miss Ruth Maxam, treasurer; Miss Edith Braselton, secretary; Miss Maud Tichenor Witherspoon, registrar; Miss Mary Skelton Welborn, historian. Thereafter meetings were held regularly on the first Saturday of each month.

At the first regular meeting it was decided to name this "The General John Gibson Chapter," in honor of the territorial governor of that name, and a soldier in the Revolutionary war, the man for whom Gibson county was named.

The first year's work of the General John Gibson Chapter was a study of local history, including the organization of Princeton and Gibson county; old pioneer families, pioneer occupations, etc.; the settlement of New Har-



mony and Vincennes. The second year's work was "Birds", and the third year's work consists of topics bearing on the colonial period in general, such as "Literature and Press of the Colonies," "The Old Historic Hudson," "The Dutch of New York", "The English Viewpoint at the Time of the Revolution", "The American Viewpoint at the Time of the Revolution".

The present officers of the chapter are: Mrs. Kate Keys Stormont, regent; Mrs. Mary Skelton Welborn, vice-regent; Miss Mabel Tichenor, secretary; Miss Mary Archer, treasurer; Miss Maud T. Witherspoon, registrar; Mrs. Anna Servoss, historian.

The charter members of the General John Gibson Chapter are: Mayme Archer, Sadie Archer, Daisie Braselton, Edith Braselton, Mrs. Ellen McCormick, Edna Ewing, Mrs. Ella Fellows Ewing, Luella Johnson, Mrs. Elsie Johnson Lewis, Eliza Aurelia Lewis, Ruth Maxam, Mrs. Anna Servoss, Mrs. Kate Keys Stormont, Mabel E. Tichenor, Mrs. Maud Tichenor Witherspoon, Mrs. Mary Skelton Welborn, Mrs. Georgia Seaton Ward and Mrs. Ella V. Buchanan.

It is interesting to note the eligibility of the members of the Princeton chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Mayme and Sadie Archer are descended from Thomas McCalla, a private in Capt. A. G. Claypoole's company in the New Eleventh Pennsylvania Regiment, commanded by Col. Thomas Hartley.

Daisie Kurtz Braselton and Edith Dean Braselton are descended from John Braselton, who served during the Revolution as colonel of a Virginia regiment.

Mrs. Ella Garrison McCormick is the great-granddaughter of Uriah Cross, one of the famous "Green Mountain Boys". He had six brothers in the same war.

Edna Ewing and Mrs. Ella Fellows Ewing are descended from Samuel Fellows, a delegate to the third Provisional Congress at Watertown, Massachusetts, in 1775, also in the conquest of Canada in 1757 and 1763, he served as a soldier. His son, Capt. John Fellows, commanded a company at Stillwater and was present at the surrender of Burgoyne. Willis and William, twin sons, fought in the Revolutionary war.

Luella Johnson and Mrs. Elsie Johnson Lewis trace their ancestry to Arthur Johnson, who was a sergeant in Captain Cooper's company, Fourth Virginia Regiment, commanded by Col. John Nevill, participating in the battles of Valley Forge, Brandywine, Stony Point, Eutaw Springs and Yorktown.

Ruth Maxam is descended from Brigadier Nathaniel Heard, commander of the New Jersey state troops, known as Heard's Brigade.

Mrs. Anna Servoss traces her lineage to Thomas McCalla, the same as Mayme and Sadie Archer.

Mrs. Kate Keys Stormont is the great-granddaughter of Brig.-Gen. Edward Hand, who was in command of a Pennsylvania regiment at the crossing of the Delaware, also in the battle of Trenton. He was afterward adjutant-general on General Washington's staff and was at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown. General Hand was one of the electors from Pennsylvania and cast the vote of that state for George Washington for President. He was a member of the old Congress, 1784-1785.

Mabel Tichenor, Maud Tichenor, Mrs. Witherspoon and Mrs. Mary Skelton Welborn are descended from Thomas Montgomery, who served as lieutenant in Capt. John Martin's company of Virginia state troops in the Indian expedition under command of George Rogers Clark. He was one of seven sons, all of whom did valiant service in the Revolutionary war.

Mrs. Georgia S. Ward is related to Thomas Dill, a captain in the battalion of Pennsylvania, and served in the first expedition to Canada in 1776. He served as captain in the Seventh Pennsylvania Line and was wounded at the battle of Brandywine.

Mrs. Ella V. Buchanan is descended from Gen. Ephraim Douglas, aide-de-camp on the staff of Gen. Benjamin Lincoln, and was taken prisoner at Bound Brook in 1777. He was afterward paroled and served as aide-de-camp on the staff of Gen. Ferd Sterling.

Mrs. Allie Lewis Sevedge is descended from Eli Lewis, who served as major in the Tenth Battalion of York County Militia in the battles of Brandywine and Germantown. He was distinguished as the "Fighting Quaker."

Mrs. Lucilla Miller traces her right to membership to Thomas McCalla, the same as Mayme and Sadie Archer, and Mrs. Dora McRoberts to Gen. Ephraim Douglas, the same as Mrs. Ella V. Buchanan.

Mrs. Ada M. Warnock is descended from Benjamin Coe, a ranger on the frontier from 1778 to 1783.

Alice Hopkins is related to Joseph Neely, a sharpshooter in Captain Marshall's company of Pennsylvania Rifle Regulars, Colonel Mile's battalion, and participated in the battle of Brandywine, and was present at the Cornwallis surrender at Yorktown.

Nellie M. Redman is descended from James Smith, who served during the war in Captain Bowyer's company of the Twelfth Virginia Regiment.

He enlisted in 1776 and served until some time in the year 1780. He died in Gibson county in 1837 at the age of eighty-three years.

Eliza Aurelia Lewis traces her lineage to Eli Lewis, the same as Mrs. Allie Lewis Sevedge, and also to Thomas McCalla.

#### GIBSON CAMP, SONS OF VETERANS.

The latest of the patriotic organizations in Gibson county is the Sons of Veterans, organized March 12, 1914, with one hundred and twenty-eight charter members. This organization is designated as Gibson Camp No. 228, and, for numbers mustered as charter members, this camp holds the record of any in this state or in the United States. George W. Krietenstein, of Terre Haute, officiated as mustering officer, assisted by other members of the order from Terre Haute, and Col. N. J. McGuire, past commander-in-chief, of Indianapolis. The following officers were elected and installed to serve the current year:

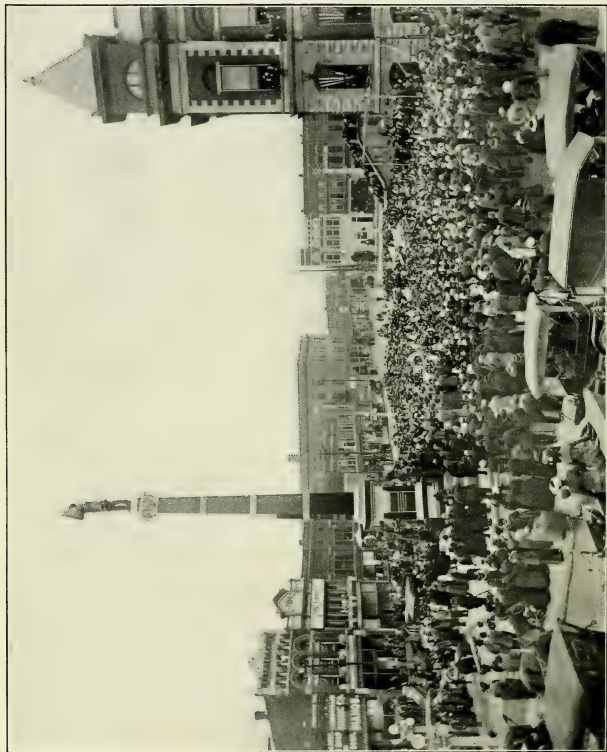
Charles O. Baltzell, commander; Samuel F. Bean, senior vice-commander; James W. Stott, junior vice-commander; Foreman E. Knowles, treasurer; John W. Corder, secretary; Charles W. Skelton, musician; Dr. C. C. Edwards, chaplain; Daniel W. Davis, color bearer; George W. McKeynolds, patriotic instructor; Will Blair, guide; Robert Adams, inner guard; Roy P. King, outer guard; Thomas Beloit, M. F. Stewart and Robert C. Baltzell, camp council.

Following the muster and installation several short addresses were made by Colonel McGuire and others. A pleasing feature of the occasion was the presentation of a beautiful silk flag, for camp and parade use, by Col. Gil R. Stormont, on behalf of Johnny Butler, of Franklin, Pennsylvania, a former Princeton boy and a drummer boy in the Civil war. This flag was purchased on his order and presented with his compliments and congratulations, and it came as a complete surprise to the boys.

Following is a list of the charter members: William Anderson, Robert H. Adams, Joseph Barton, George M. Braselton, Samuel N. Bottom, Charles O. Baltzell, Robert C. Baltzell, William C. Bucklin, Bruce Bucklin, Foley Brown, Thomas Beloit, Charles Bahne, Will Blair, Charles W. Benton, Paul Brownlee, Ed J. Baldwin, Samuel F. Bean, Horace Chambers, W. Ed Criswell, I. Eugene Criswell, Oliver M. Colvin, Samuel W. Clark, John W. Corder, Daniel W. Davis, Joseph C. Danks, William Daugherty, John R. Dorsey, Walter T. Dorsey, William Davis, George E. Daugherty, Charles C. Edwards, Arvil Gibson, James B. Gamble, Henry Greer, Hugh Hanna, Jr.,

Thomas W. Hopkins, Coleman Harvey, Charles Hartin, William G. Hopkins, Joseph Hussey, R. L. Hussey, John N. Hopkins, David C. Hanna, Wiley S. Hastings, Walter J. Heller, Curtis Hamilton, Frank N. Harris, John S. Herriott, John Ed Joyce, James Jenkins, Roy P. King, Charles King, Herbert King, Foreman E. Knowles, James M. Kessner, M. M. Kennedy, Victor Key, George Kilmartin, C. M. Lawrence, Fred J. Lewis, Ralph Little, William R. Lamb, Jesse Montgomery, Lorenzo Montgomery, Harvey Milburn, John L. Morris, Earl Moore, Allen Moore, John B. Massey, Carl Mangrum, John W. McCormick, Robert McCormick, James P. McCormick, James D. McClure, Von R. McClure, Percy McClure, Thomas Morton McDonald, Alvun Newberry, Clyde Ott, George H. Padgett, William Phillips, Robert Pierce, Nelson Pritchard, Thomas H. Riggs, Walter Riggs, Arba W. Riggs, Henry C. Redman, Samuel Redman, J. Wesley Ritchie, Fred Shuel, William R. Spillman, Samuel Spence, Charles W. Skelton, Charles S. Scull, James W. Stott, Charles A. Steele, Ralph Stormont, M. F. Stewart, John H. Ashmead, Ellis S. Arburn, Alfonso Chambers, Barnhill Bruce, A. Dale Ford, J. Q. A. Goodwin, Jesse Kern, Arthur P. Twineham, Walter Taylor, James O. Sickles, J. Arch Sprowl, George N. Sprowl, Thomas B. Scott, Jacob Shuel, Monroe Woodburn, John M. Wiggs, Robert Warnock, Archibald Warnock, William A. Wheeler, George Russell Wire, David B. Wheeler, Arthur Whitsett, George W. McReynolds, Hugh Harris, Walter Hollis, Clarence Hollis, John C. Gorman, William Mowery, James R. McGregor, Ralph Crumbaugh.





DEDICATION OF THE GIBSON COUNTY SOLDIERS' MONUMENT, PRINCETON.

Dedicated November 12, 1912.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

### SOLDIERS' MONUMENTS.

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#### GIBSON COUNTY SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.

The idea for the Gibson county soldiers' monument took definite form in April, 1910, when Archer Post, Grand Army of the Republic, after discussing improvements which were being made in the court house square, appointed a committee to secure signatures to a petition to the county commissioners for a county soldiers' monument, under the state law which permits a county appropriation of not to exceed fifty thousand dollars for a monument to Civil war soldiers, upon petition of a majority of the legal voters of the county.

One of the leaders in the movement was David Wilson Smith, veteran of Company F, One Hundred and Twentieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and another enthusiastic spirit was Joseph K. McGary. A monument committee was appointed by Archer Post, with Mr. Smith as chairman, James W. Lewis as secretary, and the following other members: Joseph Moore, Dr. W. W. Blair, Joseph K. McGary. All worked nobly, and with able assistance from other members and patriotic citizens, and on October 6, 1910, petitions were filed with county commissioners bearing four thousand eleven hundred and eleven signatures, a good majority. The petition was favorably acted upon, and on January 4, 1911, the county council made an appropriation of twenty-five thousand dollars for the monument.

A little later, from many competitive designs, that of Clark brothers, of Urbana, Illinois, and Princeton, was selected as the most desirable for the monument, and afterward the contract for construction and erection was awarded to Clark brothers, the specifications providing, after consideration of various marbles, that the base should be of Barre granite and the shaft of Montello, Wisconsin, granite. The sub-contract for the bronze figures went to Rudolph Schwarz, noted sculptor, of Indianapolis. The concrete base was laid in the fall of 1911. Building of the shaft went forward satisfactorily at the Montello quarries, so that it was ready for delivery in July

of 1912. The bronze figures were also ready a little later, but there was long delay in getting the base from Vermont, and so the shaft was not brought here and erected until September. It was not until November 12, 1912, that the shaft was completed and ready for dedication, and it was on that date that the ceremony of dedication took place. This was a great event for Princeton, and especially for the old veterans of the county, who had worked and waited long for the realization of their hopes.

Every preparation for the dedication had been carefully planned. Invitations to all the neighboring counties had been sent out, an interesting program of music and addresses had been arranged; everything had been arranged except the regulation of the weather. That turned out bad. A heavy rain set in early in the morning which put a damper on all other well regulated arrangements. But the people came from all parts of the county and from surrounding counties. Civil war veterans were present in goodly numbers from every county in the district. Filled with enthusiasm and the memory of experiences in army life, it required more than such a downpour of rain to dampen their ardor on this occasion. It was only a realistic reminder of old times.

At half past one o'clock in the afternoon the formal dedication ritual of the Grand Army of the Republic was conducted by Archer Post, in the presence of a vast crowd of people, including fifteen hundred children from the public schools. Preceding this there was a parade of about three hundred veterans around the public square, headed by a drum corps composed of veterans.

Owing to the unfavorable weather the other part of the program was given in the United Presbyterian church. This program consisted of patriotic songs by a chorus, under the direction of Mrs. Irene Coolidge, and the following addresses: "The American Flag," by Lucius C. Embree; "Monuments, their History and Significance," by Thomas Duncan; "Indiana Soldiers in the War of 1861 to 1865," by John W. Brady; "One Country and One Flag," by Arthur P. Twineham; "Gibson County in the Civil War," by Col. Gil R. Stormont.

This monument stands on the southeast corner of the public square, facing southeast, and it is a credit to the people of Gibson county and to all who had to do with its design and erection. It is something over sixty feet in height, surmounted by a bronze figure representing a color bearer. Bronze figures are on pedestals around the base, representing the different branches of the army and navy service. On the front of the first die is the inscription:







FIFTY-EIGHTH INDIANA REGIMENT MONUMENT,  
Dedicated July 4, 1865.

"Erected 1912, by the Citizens of Gibson County, Indiana, In Honor of the Valor and Patriotism of the 2,200 Soldiers and Sailors, Who Enlisted from Gibson County in the Civil War, of 1861 to 1865. A Tribute to the Memory of the 500 Who Gave the Full Measure of Devotion to Their Country."

On the east face of this die is the inscription:

"On Fame's eternal camping ground  
Their silent tents are spread,  
And Glory guards with solemn round,  
The bivouac of the dead."

On the west side:

"It is rather for us the living, that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this Nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that the government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth."—From Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, 1863.

On the north side:

"Board, of Commissioners: Joseph Yochum, Gerhardt, Frobeiter, George A. Knowles.

"Soldiers' Monument Committee: David Wilson Smith, Joseph K. McGary, Joseph Moore, Dr. W. W. Blair, James W. Lewis."

On the caps of the several dies in the shaft are the following names of battles in which soldiers from Gibson county engaged:

"Resaca," "Gettysburg," "Chickamauga," "March to the Sea," "Antietam," "Franklin," "Kenesaw Mountain," "Fredericksburg," "Shiloh," "Perryville," "Vicksburg," "Nashville," "Bentonville," "Atlanta," "Mission Ridge," "Stone's River."

#### FIFTY-EIGHTH INDIANA REGIMENT MONUMENT.

Strangers who visit Princeton are attracted by the modest marble shaft which stands in the southwest corner of the courthouse square, and frequent inquiries are made of citizens and business men for information as to its history, and there are frequent visits made to the monument by the seeker

after knowledge of its origin and meaning. But with all this inquiry and investigation, incorrect information and erroneous ideas are often obtained by these seekers after knowledge, for the reason that there are comparatively few of the citizens and business men of the town who are sufficiently informed to give correct answer to the inquiring stranger. Some of the historians of Gibson county have referred to this monument as evidence of the patriotic regard entertained by the people of the county for the soldiers who laid down their lives for the defense of their country, whereas, the people of the county had nothing whatever to do with the erection of this monument. Neither had the people of Princeton, except to furnish a committee to superintend its construction and secure a place for its erection.

The money for the erection of this monument came from the survivors of the Fifty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry Regiment, in honor of whose dead it was erected, and all of this money was raised by voluntary donations and subscriptions from members of the regiment while in service. A considerable part of this fund was obtained by appropriating certain money due the members of the regiment on account of an allowance for unused rations, supplemented by liberal subscriptions by officers and men of the regiment. The contract for the construction of the monument was made in 1863, and it was completed, erected and dedicated before the regiment was discharged from the service. In the manner of its conception, as well as in the manner and conditions under which it was erected and dedicated, it is in a class by itself. It was the first regimental monument erected in the state in memory of the soldiers of the Civil war, and it is the only one in this state, or in the United States, that was erected and dedicated by a regiment in honor of its deceased soldiers while that regiment was still in the service. History has been challenged to show its counterpart in the world and this challenge has not been answered.

In view of these facts, that the truth of history might be preserved, and the present generation and generations to come, might have wherewith to make answer to the inquiry, "What mean these stones?" we submit the following historical sketch, written by the late Lieut.-Col. Joseph Moore, of the Fifty-eighth Indiana, who was secretary of the regimental monument association:

"In the early months of 1863, the Fifty-eighth Indiana Regiment was encamped near Murfreesboro, Tennessee, as a part of the Army of the Cumberland, under General Rosecrans. During part of this time Lieutenant-Colonel Embree and myself occupied the same tent as quarters, and by us and Quartermaster Samuel Sterne was conceived the idea of erecting a monu-

ment by the survivors of the regiment, to perpetuate the memory of our deceased comrades. The plan was matured and it was made known and explained to our comrades of the regiment and was heartily approved by them. A plan of organization was drawn up and adopted. Lieutenant-Colonel Embree was elected president, and myself, then major, elected secretary and treasurer. Liberal subscriptions to meet the expense of the proposed monument were made by officers and men of the regiment at the time of the organization. It was stipulated that the cost of the monument should not exceed five thousand dollars, and that no subscription should be solicited nor received from any source outside of the regiment, as it was intended to be a monument of the regiment and erected by the regiment.

"It was determined by the voice of the regiment that the monument should be erected in the courthouse square, in Princeton, where the regiment was organized. A local committee was appointed, consisting of Dr. Andrew Lewis, Joseph Devin, William Kurtz and John Kell, to carry out the wishes of the regiment. The committee advertised for designs, with probable cost of erection, and these designs were forwarded to the regimental organization, then in the field, near Hillsboro, Tennessee. The design of C. Rule and Coleman of Cincinnati, Ohio, was adopted as the choice of the regiment, and the local committee was instructed to close a contract with this firm. It was stipulated in the contract that the monument should be completed by the time the regiment returned from the field at the expiration of its term of three years' service. This time was, however, extended for nearly a year on account of the re-enlistment of the regiment as veterans.

"The design of the monument adopted and as erected was an elegant marble shaft about thirty-three feet in height. On the north side are crossed swords and wreath. On the east side a small shield resting upon oak and myrtle. Underneath is a large wreath encircling the words, "Erected by the Survivors of the Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteers to the Memory of Their Deceased Comrades." On the south side is a knapsack supporting crossed muskets and flags, and a soldier's cap. On the west side is the coat-of-arms of the state of Indiana. On the front in large raised letters are the words, "Honor the Flag." On the several sides of the caps of the dies are the following names of battles in which the regiment engaged: "Stone's River," "Lavergne," "Chickamauga," "Mission Ridge." The American eagle, made of the finest Italian marble, surmounts the shaft, holding in its beak and talons the national ensign."

The names of all deceased members of the regiment were inscribed on

the shaft at the time of its construction. Names of those who died in the service after its completion were added later. It was not intended that the names of those who died after the regiment was discharged should be inscribed on the monument.

The monument was formally dedicated on Tuesday, July 4, 1865. As has been stated, the regiment was still in the service at this time, but they were at Louisville waiting for their discharge. Many of the officers and men received furloughs and were present at the dedication. Addresses were made by Dr. Andrew Lewis, Rev. John McMaster, Chaplain John J. Hight of the Fifty-eighth, and others. The dedication of this monument was a great day in Princeton. Thousands of people were present, including many of the Gibson county soldiers who had returned from the war, all rejoicing in victory and peace.

But amid this rejoicing there were many in sorrow and tears because of the absence of loved ones whose names were inscribed on the monument to be dedicated. The names are still there, but most of those who mingled tears with rejoicing at the dedication of this monument, bearing the names of loved ones, have passed away. The monument itself is yielding to the ravages of time and is crumbling away, but it is none the less entitled to the highest honor, reverence and respect from the citizens of Princeton, young and old, and from the stranger as well, who comes within our gates. For nearly half a century this monument has stood in this most public place, a silent testimony of the priceless heritage that is enjoyed by this generation. It stands as a memento of the patriotism, love, sacrifice and comradeship of soldiers, who, from their small pittance in the army, created the fund for its erection. Time has dimmed its artistic beauty. As an object of the sculptor's art it has lost much of its former attractiveness. As compared with other monuments of modern construction, it may appear obscure and insignificant. But in its meaning, in sacrifice, sentiment and comradeship, it looms far above and beyond them all.

#### COMPANY F, FORTY-SECOND INDIANA, MONUMENT.

On a little triangular piece of ground near the track of the Southern railroad, in Oakland City, there stands a modest appearing shaft which attracts the attention of people passing by on the train. If these passing people are interested enough and inquisitive enough to ask someone what this modest shaft represents, the information will probably be that this is a monument erected by the surviving members of Company F, Forty-second

Indiana Regiment, as a loving tribute to the memory of their comrades who gave up their lives in defense of the flag during the Civil war.

The monument was erected during the summer of 1893 and was dedicated in September of that year. The initial steps were taken at a reunion of the company a year prior to that time, when a committee was appointed to raise the necessary funds. This committee was composed of Col. W. M. Cockrum, John W. Corder, James T. Bell, John P. Simpson and Washington Strickland. Dr. George C. Mason acted as an advisory member and gave much financial and advisory aid which was greatly appreciated by the company. Col. W. M. Cockrum executed a deed to Gibson county for the lot on which the monument stands.

The contract for the monument was awarded to William Kelley of Oakland City at a cost of near one thousand dollars. The material used was oolitic limestone. The monument stands on a base seven feet square and is twenty-eight feet in height. On the top is the figure of a soldier carved in stone. On the several sides of the dies are the names of all the original members of the company and the recruits, one hundred and forty-three in number.

On a panel for that purpose are the names of the original field and staff officers of the regiment. On another side of the shaft there is a scroll in which is inscribed, "Starved to Death at Andersonville," and underneath are the names of eleven members of the company who gave this supreme test of their devotion to their country. Following are the names: Chesterfield P. Dill, Alford Farmer, J. M. Hunter, H. H. Hunter, John H. Martin, Adam Canon, William A. Reavis, W. W. Oliver, A. H. Mariner, Jacob Strickland and A. C. Coleman. These all were taken prisoners at the battle of Chickamauga and died at Andersonville.

In appropriate places on the shaft appear the names of battles in which the company participated. There are as follows: Perryville, Stone's River, Stevenson, Flint River, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge, Ringgold, Buzzard Roost, Big Shanty, Snake Creek Gap, Chattahoochie River, Bentonville.

As stated, this monument was dedicated in September, 1893. At the dedication there was a large assemblage of the surviving members of the company and regiment, soldiers from other regiments, citizens and friends. These all gathered around the monument where an appropriate address was delivered by Capt. A. J. McCutchan, of Company A, Forty-second Regiment. It was a proud day for the veterans of this company when they could look upon the completion of this monument as the crowning triumph of the

cause for which they fought, even though this rejoicing was mingled with tears in memory of those whose names were inscribed on the monument who had given up their lives for that cause.

“For their cause was the cause of the races,  
That languished in slavery’s night,  
And the death that was pale on their faces,  
Has filled the whole world with its light.”



## CHAPTER XIX.

### CHOLERA EPIDEMICS IN GIBSON COUNTY.

By Roy P. King.

Of the thousands of victims of Asiatic cholera, which was intermittently prevalent in the United States from 1832, when it first appeared in New York City, until the last epidemic, which occurred in 1873, Gibson county perhaps paid as large a toll of lives as any county in Indiana, with the possible exception of a few more thickly populated districts along the Ohio river. Twice in the history of the county has this dreaded scourge prevailed with fatal results. First in the summer of 1852, when a total of more than eighty deaths occurred, and again in 1873, when twenty or more victims were claimed by this disease. In each of these epidemics the death rate was extremely high and but a small number of the stricken recovered. In some instances almost entire families were wiped out of existence.

The awful carnage of war, the frightful harvest of death, due to disturbances of the elements, appalling industrial disasters, all bring sadness and gloom to a community so affected and leave deep and lasting impressions, but no message so terrorizes the heart of man as the whispered word that a certain and almost surely fatal plague is stalking over the land, dealing death, surely and quickly, on every side. The cry of fear dies on the lips, faces are blanched by the agony of the hideous thought and eyes look into eyes with indescribable horror at the mere mention that the dreaded contagion has manifested itself. Fear and suspicion enter the heart and mind and each one looks with fear and dread upon every other person, any one of whom may be infected with the pestilence. The conduct of business and the pursuit of pleasure cease and everywhere throughout the horror-stricken community there is that manifestation of gloom and sadness which an inevitable calamity alone can produce. In some homes already blighted by the contagion, often the living members of the family must bury their dead unassisted, and the only hands outstretched to them in aid and sympathy are from those men and women endowed with the heroic virtue to rise above the common level in times of greatest need. The pages of history are embellished with the noble deeds of such men and women, but other unknown thousands reap no such reward of fame. Of this great army of heroes and heroines, Gibson

county, in its times of greatest stress, furnished an ample number. They entered the cholera stricken homes, cared for the living, gave burial to the dead and asked nor received reward, except that which comes from the consciousness of a noble deed well done.

In these latter days, when medical science and research and the modern methods of quarantine and disinfection have made possible the complete eradication of Asiatic cholera and many other contagious and infectious diseases, there is less to fear, though cholera is still numbered among the plagues for which there is no known specific remedy. However, it has lost its former horribleness to humanity by the certain knowledge that it is an infectious and not a contagious disease. This was discovered as late as 1884. In 1873, when the second epidemic occurred in Gibson county, cholera was still believed by physicians to be contagious.

First mention of Asiatic cholera is found in the early Sanscrit and Chinese writings, but the first notation in history was made in the sixteenth century, when it raged in India, where it has since been endemic. In 1817 it was contracted by the English soldiers in India and spread to China, Prussia, Germany and Russia. It reached England in the spring of 1832, appearing in London.

In June, 1832, cases were reported in Montreal, Canada, and in July of the same year the first deaths occurred at New York. In the following few months the epidemic spread to other Eastern cities, including Philadelphia, Baltimore and Charleston.

From Montreal the epidemic traveled westward along the great lakes and down the Mississippi valley. There is no record of it having claimed any victims at that time in Gibson county.

The second epidemic followed in 1845, emanating from the Tartary coast, reaching the United States in 1848 and followed the same course through the country, along the principal high and water ways. Strict quarantine enforcement in New York City stopped its spread at that point, but New Orleans, Louisiana, where it was also prevalent, had no such quarantine facilities and the scourge crept slowly up the Mississippi and Ohio river valleys. In 1849 Louisville, Kentucky, and Cincinnati, Ohio, were visited. At the latter place the death rate was extremely high, one hundred and sixty being recorded in one day.

Cholera lingered throughout Ohio, Indiana and Illinois during the next four or five years and made its first appearance in Gibson county in the summer of 1852. At that time the Wabash and Erie canal was in progress of

construction about seven miles southeast of Princeton. In this work two or three hundred Irish immigrant workmen were employed. The workmen were housed in temporary camps and little thought was given to cleanliness and sanitation, a condition most favorable for cholera and other diseases. Within a few days after the cholera made its appearance a number of deaths resulted and when it had run its course, in less than three weeks, an estimated total of eighty had succumbed.

Following the first outbreak a majority of the men fled from the vicinity and excitement in the community was at fever heat. Victims of the disease were left lying for days before being given burial and it was almost impossible to secure men to do this work. A few of the Irish workmen stayed with their stricken friends and these few braved danger by burying the bodies in long trenches near the reservoir. All trace of their last resting place has now disappeared. Some few bodies were taken to Vincennes by friends, for burial in consecrated ground. A number of those who remained behind to care for the sick and dying gave up their lives.

Besides the foreign workmen there were also a few deaths among residents of the community, including one man and his wife who voluntarily ministered to the stricken canal workmen.

Meager accounts are given in the newspapers of that day of attacks of cholera in Princeton and one death, that of a man named Woods, is believed to have resulted from its effects. Little details of the tense excitement which must have prevailed were recorded by the press, but it is known that the people in general kept away from the infected district for weeks. The epidemic was of short duration and the excitement must have subsided in a short time.

The second visitation of cholera in Gibson county occurred in the summer of 1873, vivid recollections of which still remain in the minds of many older people. A small epidemic had occurred in the Eastern states in 1865, but in 1873 cholera again got a firm foothold in the South and traveled up the Mississippi valley. It became epidemic in Evansville and Mt. Vernon, Indiana, Cairo and Carmi, Illinois, Paducah, Kentucky, and many deaths occurred and it is from one of these infected places that it is believed to have spread to Princeton.

Residing at the corner of Spruce and Ford streets in Princeton was Mrs. John Seabrooks, an aged lady, who for a living did washing. It is supposed she became infected with the disease from the clothing of some person for whom she washed, and who had been in some infected territory. Mrs. Seabrooks lived alone and one morning was found by her daughter lying on the

floor of her room, in the last stages of what physicians pronounced to be cholera. She died a few hours later.

The news of Mrs. Seabrooks' death spread rapidly and excitement ran high in Princeton. For weeks residents lived in dread, but no other cases developed in the town.

Lack of proper sanitary measures, however, did not prevent infection from this one case. Instead of burning the clothing and bed clothing of Mrs. Seabrooks, they were taken to Indian creek, about three miles northeast of Princeton, where they were washed in the waters of the creek, thus infecting the water.

Near this creek lived the family of Henry Weatherly, consisting of husband and wife and five children, and Indian creek was the source of their water supply. How thoroughly the water was infected is shown by the fact that but one child, Margaret, then about two years old, survives. The other members of the family succumbed in the space of a few days.

Though Margaret Weatherly was the sole survivor of the family, yet she was the first to be attacked by the disease and it is the belief that her life was saved by a mistake on the part of her mother. For several weeks the father had been suffering from stomach trouble and had been taking morphine to ease the pain. A few days following the pollution of the stream Margaret was suddenly taken ill one morning and the mother, not realizing the deadly effects of morphine, gave the child the same sized dose the father had been accustomed to taking. The child grew worse and a physician was summoned from Princeton. By the time he arrived the mother had also been stricken with cholera and was writhing in its agonies. Margaret was in a stupor from the effects of the morphine, but by persistent efforts on the part of the physician, was kept from passing into the sleep of death, until the cholera attack, which was probably light, passed away and she gradually recovered. The mother, however, continued to grow worse and died early in the evening. Her death was followed the same night by the death of two other children and before morning Henry Weatherly, the husband, was stricken.

Nearby lived the families of John McDaniel, Robert Boswell, Mrs. Elias Pearson, a sister of Henry Weatherly, and James Carithers, a brother of Mrs. Weatherly. All these relatives and neighbors put aside their fears and gave aid to the ill-fated family. Henry Weatherly, soon after he was taken sick, together with the now remaining three children, was removed to the home of James Carithers, where Mr. Weatherly died a few hours later.

No other deaths occurred for three days and in the meantime the victims had been buried. The bodies were cared for by Mrs. John McDaniel, Mrs. Pearson and her daughter, Emma. All these soon sickened and died. Robert Boswell, who buried the bodies of Mrs. Weatherly and her children, also became a victim.

The next deaths to be recorded were those of two of the three remaining Weatherly children and four deaths in the family of Jesse Weatherly, a brother of Henry, who lived farther down Indian creek, the wife and three children being taken. All of these deaths occurred in less than ten days following the death of Mrs. Seabrooks in Princeton.

Excitement in the Weatherly neighborhood was at fever heat. Farmers stopped work in their fields and stock was allowed to suffer for lack of attention. Every one felt that the deadful plague would not be checked until all were taken and families dumbly waited, watching and dreading to see who would be the first of their loved ones to be stricken. The infected neighborhood was shunned by those living outside and farmers drove for miles out of their way to and from Princeton, traveling by other roads than those which passed through the neighborhood. In the prevailing belief that the disease came out of the ground, vegetables and fruits were not eaten and gardens were allowed to go unattended throughout the summer. Not until cool weather arrived did the fear which possessed the people subside to such an extent that they resumed their natural vocations and mode of living.

Physicians took what steps they could to keep the disease from spreading and, though they believed at that time that cholera was contagious and not merely infectious, they adopted the right means to stamp out the epidemic. Quantities of lime were sprinkled in all cellars, outhouses and damp places. Drinking water was boiled before being used and people were instructed to keep their doors and windows open and get as much fresh air as possible. More recent knowledge of cholera discloses the fact that the physicians could not have done better service had they known as much concerning cholera as is now known. Their service deserves high commendation, because they were then fighting against greater odds than would obtain at this time.

Fourteen deaths are known to have occurred in the Weatherly neighborhood in less than two weeks, and many older people declare that, including the death of Mrs. Seabrooks in Princeton, there were sixteen victims.

Another small epidemic occurred in the vicinity of Wheeling, on the Patoka river, about eight miles northeast of Princeton. Five deaths are known to have resulted in a family named Hartwell and one or two more

persons, names unknown at this time, are said to have died. The Hartwell home was burned, together with its contents, to check the spread of the disease. These deaths occurred at about the same time that cholera was raging along Indian creek.

The known total of deaths in Gibson county during the cholera epidemic of 1873 is twenty, but it is very probable that there were a few more. It was by far the worst epidemic of any disease which ever visited the county. Smallpox and other contagious and infectious diseases have claimed many more victims in the course of years, but these epidemics were not considered in such a serious manner.

Great credit reflects upon the physicians of Princeton and other towns in the county, for their brave service during the two cholera attacks. Though they had every reason to believe the infested homes were veritable death traps, they did not flinch in their devotion to duty, and fearlessly visited the stricken and did all in their power to ease their sufferings. In the present day a physician would go into a cholera-infected home with the positive assurance that he was running no risk, if proper measures were taken to ward off infection, but that knowledge has come since the last visitation of the disease in Gibson county.

In 1852 the practicing physicians of Princeton included Drs. W. W. Blair, J. J. Pennington, V. T. West, Andrew Lewis, Willoughby Walling, Hugh Patten, George B. Graff and W. G. Kidd. It is probable that all of these physicians were active in treating the cases.

The physicians of 1873 included Drs. W. W. Blair, S. E. Munford, John Malone, V. T. West, James C. Patten, Richard Smith and others.

Of all the physicians named in the foregoing lists, Dr. W. W. Blair is the only one surviving at this time (1914). Having passed through both epidemics, Doctor Blair is thoroughly familiar with the conditions which prevailed and recalls many startling, as well as some amusing incidents which occurred. In each epidemic he treated a number of cases of cholera.

One of the most tragic incidents of the epidemic of 1852 occurred in a family by the name of Ritzie. When the epidemic was at its height, Mrs. Ritzie was suddenly stricken and other members of the family were also showing indications of having contracted the disease. Mrs. Ritzie died before a physician could be summoned, but a man on horseback was sent for Doctor Blair, and it was after nightfall when the physician arrived at the Ritzie home. The messenger would not go near the plague-stricken house and Doctor Blair approached it alone. There were no lights in the house and

a knock at the door brought no response. Doctor Blair entered the house and in the light from the dying embers in the fire-place a grewsome sight met his gaze. Upon one bed in the room lay the body of the wife and mother. Upon another, laying crosswise, with the head almost touching the floor, was the body of Mr. Ritzie, death having come but a short time before the arrival of Doctor Blair, and upon the same bed, totally unconscious of the terrible tragedy which had been enacted about her, lay sleeping the little daughter, Margaret Ritzie, about six years old. Rousing the child from her slumber, Doctor Blair carried her from the house, mounted his horse and with the child in his arms rode to a neighboring house where he sought entrance. When the circumstances were learned, admittance was refused and the Doctor was almost forced to fight his way into the home so great was the fear of contagion. After much persuasion the family was prevailed upon to care for the little girl until she could be placed under the care of relatives. Margaret passed through the terrible experience without contracting the cholera, and later in life became the wife of Peter Hoffman, of Ft. Branch, where she is living at the present time.

In the epidemic of 1852 much trouble was experienced in procuring burial for the bodies of the unknown victims and in a number of cases bodies were found in isolated "shanties" along the canal, several days after death. In one instance the body of a man was found, so badly decomposed that no attempt at burial was made. The torch was applied to the building and the remains incinerated.

Persons who were known to have been in the infected district were shunned by their friends and neighbors for weeks following, and such fear of them was manifested that in some cases suffering resulted. This was especially true in regard to the Irish workmen who remained in the vicinity. They were not permitted to approach other persons.

An amusing incident has been related, showing that even though the Irish immigrants passed through a terrible experience, it did not dull their fun-loving disposition, if the occasion presented itself. The bodies of the more devoutly religious who died during the scourge were, in some instances, taken to Vincennes for burial and on one occasion several friends started to Vincennes with the body of a comrade. The coffin containing the remains was placed in a one-horse cart, very common at that time. Passing through or near Princeton the members of the funeral party could not resist the temptation to drown their sorrows with a few drinks, and when later they resumed their journey happiness had taken the place of grief. But little at-



tention was paid to the cart as they walked by its side and all went well until they reached a point a few miles north of Princeton, when the sudden realization came to one member of the cortege that the cart was empty. The corpse had disappeared. Search was instituted and on a hillside a mile or more back, the coffin was found lying in the road where it had slid from the cart in going up the hill. The unfortunate victim was reloaded and eventually reached his final resting place at Vincennes.

Another amusing occurrence happened in Princeton during the epidemic of 1873. A few days following the death of Mrs. Seabrooks, an itinerant German butcher, who was accustomed to periodical sprees, suddenly fell on the sidewalk on the west side of the public square one morning. The cry was immediately raised that he had been attacked with cholera and for the next few hours the poor fellow was given a wide berth. However, the effects of his "jag" soon passed away and he sobered sufficiently to go home. Such an incident as this, while amusing, serves to illustrate the fear entertained by the public at large.

Henry Blumm, a well known farmer residing south of Princeton on the old state road, is the only remaining member of a family which died from the effects of the cholera epidemic of 1852. His father and two or three brothers and sisters were victims and were buried on the farm which was situated near the old Wabash & Erie canal, south of Francisco. Mr. Blumm was a baby at the time and has no recollection of any member of his family. He was taken and raised by a neighbor.

One death is known to have occurred in Owensville during the first epidemic, it being that of a Mrs. Whiteman, of Princeton, who was visiting at Owensville. She was stricken during the night and lived only a few hours.

C. R. Howe, one of the older residents of Princeton, was living at Owensville at the time of Mrs. Whiteman's death and was sent to Princeton to notify relatives of her death. Mr. Howe declares that Princeton was in a condition of great excitement due to the death of a man named Woods, from the effects of cholera. Mr. Howe came no farther than the end of the Evansville & Crawfordsville railroad (Chicago & Eastern Illinois), which was in process of construction. A crowd was gathered waiting for the arrival of a train from Evansville. After looking at the first railroad train he had ever seen, Mr. Howe returned to Owensville, being afraid to stay longer in Princeton on account of the cholera.

In 1873 Gibson county was not the only locality to suffer greatly from the disease. At Mt. Vernon and throughout Posey county the epidemic was



prevalent. Hundreds fled to higher points away from the river. Albion, Illinois, was a refuge for a great number and they remained until the scourge had spent its fury. Other cities along the Ohio river also suffered greatly, including Cairo, Illinois, Paducah and Henderson, Kentucky, and Evansville. At the latter place, however, the death ratio was not large.

For the most part the people of Princeton, fearing the disease, stayed at home and families kept as much to themselves as possible. But little business was transacted.

In the preparation of this article the writer has endeavored to record only well established facts concerning the two epidemics of cholera which visited Gibson county. The incidents related are largely reminiscences of people who passed through them, or have data in support of the authenticity of the incident related. A number of other stories concerning deaths, privations and the excitement which prevailed have not been recorded because they were unsupported by any reliable data. In many cases, names of persons and families mentioned are correct, so far as the memory of some old resident is not at fault. Every effort has been made to guard against errors of this nature. The desire of the writer is to perpetuate only the truth and keep fresh the memory of those upon whom honor and glory reflects. Incidents concerning the conduct of any person or persons which cast any other reflection are best forgotten. No doubt these occurred, but it is just as true that buried in the forgotten history of the past are many stories of heroic bravery and sacrifice, enacted by men and women whose names are forgotten by mortal man, but whose deeds are recorded by Him who "doeth all things well." They have received their reward.

## CHAPTER XX.

### A NEIGHBORHOOD RETROSPECT.

How dear to my heart are the scenes of my childhood,  
When fond recollection presents them to view;  
The orchard, the meadow, the deep-tangled wildwood,  
And every loved spot which my infancy knew.

Breathes there a man with soul so dead that these lines from Woodworth's familiar poem, "The Old Oaken Bucket", has not stirred within him a responsive chord of memory and reflection? A man "whose heart hath ne'er within him burned, as home his footsteps he hath turned?" Pity the man who had no home in childhood to which he might turn in fond reflection in after years. Much more to be pitied and to be despised is the man, who, "though high his titles and proud his name," has no reverence nor regard for the home and friends of his childhood.

The sentiment expressed in the lines of Woodworth was vividly in my mind as I found occasion a short time ago to visit some of the "loved spots which my infancy knew," in a neighborhood about four miles north-east of Princeton. It was "the fond recollection" of scenes and incidents in this neighborhood in the long ago that furnished the inspiration for this sketch, a sketch somewhat historical and largely personal.

With the splendid rock roads and modern conveyance it is a short and easy journey to the late homestead of John M. Stormont, in the neighborhood which is to furnish the material for this sketch. In pioneer times this farm was known as the Kell place. Like all the early settlers, the Kells located their home on the highest hill they could find, avoiding the lowlands and bottoms and the malaria which was supposed to be prevalent there. Here Alexander R. Kell, a son of the first settlers, built him a home, adding several acres to the homestead of his ancestors. Some of these acres are very broken and hilly and a great amount of hard labor was required in getting these lands in shape for cultivation. But there are acres of comparatively level land on the farm on which good crops are raised. The present owner, who made his home here until a few years ago, had made some modern improvements about his house and barn, among others a

system of water works. From a large cistern, or reservoir, supplied with water from a driven well, operated by a wind-mill pump, located on a hill near the barn, water is carried by pipes to the house and barn in sufficient supply for stock and domestic purposes.

In our wanderings about this place we finally came to the top of the hill where this reservoir is located, and here we have a view of the country for miles around. Standing on this summit, in the middle of a field now under cultivation, it is not much of a stretch of memory to recall the time when this, and nearly all the country around, was an unbroken forest. Wind-ing through what was then a woods, not far from the place where we are standing, there was a narrow country road, which was the connecting link between the old Kirk's mill and the Dongola roads, as these were known then. This narrow, winding road was much traveled in the days in which my memory is now centered. And I am reminded of one incident that occurred on this road, not far from the place where we are now standing, which is still fresh in the memory of the few living participants. It will be of interest to these few, and perhaps others, to relate this story.

#### EARLY TIME WEDDING CEREMONIES.

In early times, in this neighborhood, as in others, it was the custom to make a great to-do about a wedding ceremony. In those times a wedding was strictly a neighborhood affair, and all the neighborhood was interested, and they were nearly all and always there when the ceremony was pulled off. A surprise wedding was practically impossible in those days. There were no secret marriages, and it was not customary, nor considered proper, for young people to seek an affinity outside of the families living in the neighborhood. Everybody knew who was going to marry and when the nuptial ceremony was to take place, and everybody began in ample time to make preparations to attend. No engraved invitation, or any other sort of invitation was necessary. A wedding day was usually a sort of neighborhood holiday. It was the custom to have a procession, composed of the friends of the bride and bridegroom, respectively, who would assemble at the respective homes of the high contracting parties at the appointed hour, on the day of the ceremony. Then, the bride's party, in buggies and on horseback, would start from her home and proceed to the home of the groom, where they would meet the procession that was to serve as his escort. Then the combined procession, headed by that of the groom, would return to the home of the bride for the official ceremony. The groom, clothed in the conventional wedding

garments of those times, always rode in front of the procession. A necessary part of the groom's conventional outfit was a plug hat. Whatever else he might lack in worldly goods or wearing apparel, the young man of those times would not think of fixing the date of his wedding until he was sure that somehow he could arrange for a plug hat to wear on that occasion. It might be the first, last and only time he would wear this sort of head gear, but his concern was only for the present requirements and customary proprieties.

The combined procession of the bride and groom, with much display of ribbons, banners and blowing of horns, was a spectacle to attract attention as it passed along the way to the home of the expectant bride, where the minister was in waiting and the ceremony was duly performed. But it was not all over yet. The next day was the "infare", when the same sort of a procession escorted the newly-weds to the home of the groom, where dinner was served and a day of hilarity enjoyed by those present. Then, after these two days of hurry and ceremony, the neighborhood settled down to the usual work and quiet.

#### HOW A WILD STEER CREATED PANIC IN A WEDDING PROCESSION.

The incident I started to relate was connected with a wedding celebration like that described. The procession from the home of the bride passed along the winding road through the woods near the place where we are now standing, on the way to the home of the groom, a half mile distant. Headed by the escort of the groom, the procession passed along this same road on their return to the home of the bride. The procession was marked by much display, in the way of decorated vehicles, banners, ribbons and loud apparel, and the blowing of horns. Everything went as merry as the traditional marriage bell until the procession was passing along the road through this woods. Then something happened that was not down on the program.

That same day Paul Habig, Jake Kolb and Bob Kirkman were out in this part of the country looking after some cattle to supply their meat market in Princeton. In the bunch they were driving to town was one wild, untamed steer that manifested an unwillingness to be separated from his accustomed grazing grounds. The cattle buyers had been chasing this wild steer for hours and had managed to get him as far as this woods about the time of the approach of the bridal procession. He was a hundred yards or so from the road when the horn blowing and the loud apparel of the passing show attracted his attention and he at once made a wild dash in that direction. Down

through the thick underbrush came this wild beast of the forest, with head erect and tail extended, bawling as he came. It is not difficult to imagine the effect of this terrifying spectacle. Horses were panic stricken and so were the occupants of the gaily bedecked vehicles. Fear and consternation ruled where but a moment before there was joy and hilarity. The screams and shrieks of the women, the shouts of the drivers of vehicles, as they tried to control the terrified horses, and, withal, the bawling of that wild steer as he came flying through the brush, constituted a scene that lacked nothing for excitement. Nothing like this had been seen and heard in these woods since the Indians left.

Many of the horses became unmanageable and broke away through the woods, dashing buggies against trees and seriously injuring the occupants. Fortunately none of the injuries were serious. The most serious of the casualties was in broken harness and wrecked vehicles. Some of the horses, finding themselves free from harness and other incumbrance, made a bee line for home, leaving their owners to get out of that scrape the best they could.

Things are never so bad but what they might be worse. It was so in this case. The procession finally got itself together again. Those who were disabled in body, or in wreck of family carriage, were sent to their homes and the remnant proceeded on their way to the place of ceremony. But the remainder of the journey was without pomp or hilarity. That untamed steer had put a crimp in all that, but it was some satisfaction to know that his glory was short lived. He was finally driven to town and to the slaughter. But this escapade in these woods had one good result—it ended that fashion of foolishness on wedding occasions. This was the last of that kind in that neighborhood.

Standing on this hill, which is now our viewpoint for what follows, with the aid of a field glass, we can see the farms and farm houses on the hills beyond Patoka river, in Washington township, as we look toward the north. Looking to the east, we get a view of the lands in Columbia township, and on a clear day can see the smoke from manufacturing industries in Oakland City. This is a fine viewpoint for all the country, for eight or ten miles around, a country of fine farms and fertile fields now, but largely covered with unbroken forest of much fine timber at the time in which my memory dwells. But it is a retrospect of this immediate neighborhood that interests me most just now. From this viewpoint I can easily locate the homes of those who were the pioneers in this neighborhood, and it is of these that my story will deal.

## CHARACTER SKETCHES—VISIONS OF THE PAST FROM A HILL-TOP.

Looking down the slope of this hill, as we face east, the house that is first in view is on the site of the old homestead of John Carithers, who came with his family from Tennessee in 1836. He was a man of sturdy principle and rather above the average in intellectual attainments in those days. His education was sufficient to qualify him for teaching school and he engaged in this occupation part of the time after coming to this state. Like most of those who settled in this neighborhood, Mr. Carithers had left his home in the South because of his opposition to slavery, and he hesitated not to declare his convictions as to that blighting evil in his Tennessee home. Coming to Indiana, he brought his principles with him. Here he manifested his opposition to slavery and the slave traffic, not only in preaching, but also in practice. In the days of the "underground railroad" his house became one of the stations, and his sympathies and efforts were actively enlisted in behalf of bondmen seeking freedom. The old barn that stood on the site we now have in view has harbored many a black man trying to escape to the land of liberty. His place was always under suspicion, and often visited by the slave-hunters, but they seldom found what they were looking for. This was before the days of wireless telegraphy, but these "underground railroad" stations had a system that enabled them to operate their lines under a code of signals equal to any of the modern methods of communication. By some secret code or sign, which was well understood by the runaway slave and those aiding him, he was passed along from one station to another until he reached Canada, the land of freedom. No man, of whatever color or condition, ever came to the home of John Carithers seeking food or shelter and was sent away unsatisfied. He was a grand Christian man, whose life and influence was a blessing and a benediction on the community in which he lived. The only members of this family now living are Mrs. Jane Reid, Morning Sun, Iowa, and Mrs. Louise Peoples, Princeton.

Looking a little to the left, about a quarter of a mile distant, we have in view the place where Josiah E. Carithers, son of the above mentioned, built a log house in the woods and started keeping house, more than half a century ago. He had taken for his wife and help-meet Elizabeth Lockhart, whose family home was about half a mile east. Here he continued to live, clearing out the forest, adding cultivated acres to the original homestead, until he had one of the best farms in the neighborhood. Owing to declining health, he removed to Princeton about three years ago, where he died in

January, 1914, at an advanced age. He was the last of the early settlers to leave this neighborhood.

On the hill directly east of where we are standing is the place where William Murphy lived for about two generations. It was not much of a farm that Mr. Murphy owned, but he managed to live on it and reared a large family. He had the finest blackberry patch in the neighborhood in early times. He also had some excellent apples in his orchard, as some of the boys of that time could testify. These same boys could also testify to the fact that extreme caution was necessary for the trespassers in the Murphy orchard, on account of the Murphy dogs, that kept faithful watch over the same. Very often the incautious trespasser found it necessary to climb a tree to avoid a controversy with these dogs, and he was compelled to remain there, regardless of the weather, until the dog watch was relieved.

Looking toward the southeast, we can see the old homestead of Mathew Clark, and also that of William Clark, both early settlers, who came in with the Tennessee colony. In later years the Mathew Clark farm came into the possession of Clarence A. Buskirk, who planted it in fruit trees and made it a fine fruit farm. Still further east we get a view of the places where Samuel Lawrence and William Lawrence, respectively, founded a home when they came to this county from Ohio. A little to the right we locate the farm and homestead of Dustin Mills, who was probably one of the earliest settlers. He came from Maine and located here in 1816. He was among the best farmers of his time. His farm, fences, house and other buildings were always kept in good repair, and everything about the premises was remarkable for neatness and good taste.

#### ESCAPADE OF BOYS WHO ESCAPED THEIR JUST DESERTS.

Just beyond the Samuel Lawrence place are the William Harbinson acres. Mr. Harbinson was a South Carolinian, a gentleman of the old school. He was the most neat and dressy person in the neighborhood, and everything about his place conformed to his personal appearance. Nothing slovenly nor untidy was permissible in his person or possessions. And this reminds me of an episode, or an escapade, that may as well be related here.

As has been stated, Mr. Harbinson was very particular to have everything about his premises neat and attractive, and, in accordance with this disposition, he erected a very fine gate, opening into the driveway from the public road, leading to his house, which was located in a grove a few hundred yards from the road. This gate was made by Mr. Harbinson himself, who

was a fine carpenter. It was of fine black walnut, and painted white, the pride of the maker and the admiration of all who passed that way. It attracted the attention of a bunch of boys, returning from the Lawrence school-house, one cold, rainy winter evening. They also admired the gate, but manifested their admiration in a rather scandalous way. Some satanic spirit, that sometimes gets possession of boys, suggested that this gate needed something further in the way of decoration, and this suggestion immediately took active form. In the muddy road they found an abundance of decorating material to their liking, and they at once proceeded to apply it. With hastily made paddles, with bare hands, and with an industry and energy unusual for boys engaged in legitimate work, they soon had that gate thoroughly daubed and plastered. It was a sight to make angels weep, and these boys would doubtless have been engaged in a similar tearful exercise if the owner had happened along before the job had been completed and they had made their get-away. That night it turned cold, and the mud on that gate, and everything else, froze hard and tight. Thus the owner found it when he essayed to drive out the next morning. That beautiful gate would not stand ajar, however much he might jar it, so he found it necessary to open a gap in the fence until the weather moderated sufficiently to thaw the mud on the gate. Mr. Harbinson was somewhat gifted in the use of a vigorous and expressive vocabulary, and it is not at all unlikely that he exercised that gift to the fullest when he discovered the condition of things.

Somehow the boys who engaged in this decorative art managed to get by the school teacher (Arthur Trimble), who held a court of inquiry in regard to the matter the next day, and it so happened that their respective parents overlooked a stern duty. But the information came that the owner of that gate had secured the names of the boys, and that he had registered a vow to give to the leader of that bunch, especially, what was coming to him, on sight. So, the leader, being apprised of this duly registered vow, and being fully persuaded that the indignant owner of the gate meant what he said, decided that, whatever there might be coming to him, he would just as soon wait; that, in order to avoid unpleasant consequences, it would be the part of discretion to keep himself out of sight.

In pursuance of this policy, by cutting across fields, and an occasional dodging behind trees, as the owner of this gate would be seen from a distance driving along the road, this undesired interview was avoided and the registered vow was never fulfilled. It was some years after this that the outlawed transgressor first met Mr. Harbinson, face to face, as he was driving out from town. Then the boy had on the uniform of a soldier and he had



then no inclination to avoid a meeting. But it was not necessary, as Mr. Harbinson was in a friendly frame of mind now. He manifested it by getting out of his buggy and, extending his hand to the young soldier, congratulated him on his having enlisted in the army, and expressed a wish for his success and a safe return home. A suggested apology for past indiscretion was met with a laugh by Mr. Harbinson, remarking that no apology was necessary for that boyish freak, especially since the boys who engaged in it were now enlisting in the service of their country. With friendly counsel and admonition, Mr. Harbinson bid the young soldier farewell and godspeed—and thus, unconsciously, administered a more effective punishment than the one threatened years before.

Turning again to view the landscape o'er, looking toward the northeast, across Lost Creek valley, we recognize the old home of Thomas Wallace, another Tennessean, who did his full share of the work that converted these forests into fruitful fields. He lived in that house, and labored in these forests and fields, for more than two generations, and here he died, a few years ago, at an advanced age. There were never better neighbors, nor a more kind-hearted people, than Uncle Tom Wallace, and his faithful wife, who preceded him to the grave but a few years.

Within a stone's throw, almost, looking toward the north, is the place where James Stormont established a home, and where he lived for forty years or more. Still further, looking in the same direction, is the old home of William Stormont. About 1836 he settled there, in the woods, on a small tract of land and built a small log house. Year after year he added acre to acre and, by hard and patient labor, changed forest into cultivated field, until he owned in one body a fine farm of over three hundred acres. He continued to live on this farm until 1873, when he sold it, removed to Princeton and bought another farm near the town. He continued to devote his attention to his farming interests up to the time of his death, which occurred January 1, 1894, at the age of eighty-six years. William and James Stormont were of the tribe of Stormonts who came here from South Carolina in 1832, because of their opposition to slavery. The father of the tribe settled on the hills, half a mile east of where we are now standing, where David, the youngest of the tribe, lived for the greater part of his life. James Stormont, the father, died in the old home in 1862, at the age of eighty-nine years.

## MEMORIES OF A HOME AND A MOSS-COVERED BUCKET.

Almost within speaking distance is the place where Andrew Carithers settled when he came here from his Tennessee home. This was the home of a revered grandfather and a sainted grandmother, a place of sacred memory to the writer of this sketch. Here they lived their full measure of days, and then passed on to their place in that house not made with hands. The only member of this family now living is Mrs. John Dunlap, whose home is now in Chicago. In that loved spot, which my infancy knew as grandmother's home, there is nothing that fond recollection presents to view more vividly than the old well, with its old-fashioned well-sweep, and the moss-covered bucket, that brought from the well's pebbled bottom the purest and sweetest water that nature can yield. I fancy that it was a well, with an equipment like this, that inspired Woodworth's "Old Oaken Bucket". How often, in after years, especially in the years of army service, has the memory turned to the refreshing, sparkling water in that well. In the days of long, dry and dusty marches, with scant supply of water, often obtained from stagnant pools, or muddy creeks, the thirsty soldier would longingly think of that moss-covered bucket, dripping with coolness as it rose from the well. With slight variation, and with an apology to the author, these lines from Woodworth will express the thought:

Far removed from the loved situation,  
The tear of regret would intrusively swell,  
And fancy revert to grandmother's habitation,  
And sigh for the bucket that hung in the well,  
The old oaken bucket, the iron-bound bucket,  
The moss-covered bucket, that hung in the well.

## THE MAKEMSON HOME—OLD LOG SCHOOL HOUSE.

On account of the intervening hills we can hardly see it, but memory easily fixes the place, directly north, which was the old home of Andrew Makemson, an earnest Christian man, a patriarch, of my boyhood fancy. This home was on the hills overlooking Patoka river bottoms. It was a log house, of the primitive type and primitive furnishings, with the wide, capacious fire-place common to those times. As I remember it, the walls of the interior of that house were always neatly papered with copies of the *Cincinnati Dollar Times*, a family news and story paper, of which Mr.

Makemson was a regular subscriber. This interior decoration is fixed in memory by impressions made in attendance on the neighborhood prayer-meetings, which were frequently held at this house. On such occasions it was the custom to have benches around the room, next the wall, for the boys to sit on. There were usually enough chairs to accommodate the older people. They had long prayers at these meetings, all kneeling. But the boys, who faced the wall in this kneeling position, never wearied on account of these extended supplications, unless, perchance, some of the newspapers on the wall should be pasted upside down, so that they could not read the stories which the paper contained. How long Mr. Makemson lived in this house I have no knowledge, but I recall a boyhood fancy that he lived there longer than was necessary; that he was fitted for glory sometime before he was called from that home on the hill to one that was higher and more enduring.

On another tract of land, adjoining, was the home of a son, Joseph Makemson. He hewed the logs and built the house in which he lived during his lifetime. Another son, Anderson, grew to manhood in the old home, and lived there for several years after his father's death. As one of the younger generation, he contributed his full share of the hard work incident to farm life in those early times. Anderson Makemson is still living, a respected citizen of Princeton, and he is the lone survivor of those who lived and worked with the early settlers of this neighborhood. The only other members of the Makemson family living are John, who lives in Iowa, and Mrs. Millis, better known as Mag Makemson in the times of which I am writing, whose home is in Kansas. Near the Makemson home was the old log school house, where the youth of the neighborhood received such education as was afforded in early times. One of those who attended school here was James Makemson, an older member of that family, as is evidenced by the following certificate. This certificate was found (as this manuscript was written) in an old family Bible of James Stormont, Sr., where it has evidently been for over seventy years. Just why this certificate came into the hands of the owner of this Bible, and why it was so carefully preserved during all the years the book was in daily use, is not explainable. Anyhow, this old document has lain in its hiding place long enough to entitle it to a place in this story, without explanation or apology, and a copy is here given:

"I, Francis Borland, teacher of the school district No. 2, in Patoka township No. 2 south, and range No. 10 west, in the county of Gibson, do certify that James Makemson, of district No. —, of township No. 1 south, and

range No. 10 west, in said county, has attended at this school since the 26th day of March, A. D. 1842, amounting in the aggregate to 29 days.

"Given under my hand and seal, this 4th day of August, A. D. 1843.

"FRANCIS BORLAND (Seal)."

"State of Indiana, County of Gibson, ss:

"Personally appeared before me, a Justice of the Peace, for the county aforesaid, Francis Borland, the within named teacher, who subscribed the within certificate, before me, and, being duly sworn, says the within certificate is true.

"Given under my hand and seal this 4th day of August, A. D. 1843.

"A. C. MILLS, J. P. (Seal.)."

#### THE OLD CROSSWAY LEADING TO KIRK'S MILL.

Many other things of interest come to mind in looking over the country from this viewpoint, but we will leave them for the present and move to another point, a mile or more to the northeast, to a hill beyond the Page school house. From this hill, looking north and east, we see marvelous changes that have taken place since the time of boyhood memory. Then, all this country was a vast swamp, an impenetrable wilderness, inhabited by snakes, frogs, lizards, mud turtles and various kinds of wild animals. Now, this same country is a great cornfield, as far as the eye can reach, and comprises some of the most valuable and most productive land in the county. The greater part of these productive acres, looking to the north and west, are the lands of Alfred Mauck and Thomas Carithers, respectively. On the hill, to the left of where we are standing, is the old homestead of William Morrow. Here he lived for more than half a century, and here he died a few years ago, at an advanced age. At the foot of the hill is the site of the old homestead of Mrs. Hannah Mills, or Mrs. Dillon, as she was known in later life. Starting from near her home was the old "crossway," as it was called, which was the road that led through the forest and swamp to Kirk's mill, a mile and a half distant. This thoroughfare was constructed with logs, laid crosswise, and it was the only connection between the hills, on the one side of the swamp, and Kirk's mill, and the country beyond on the other. This "crossway" was an exceedingly rough road to travel, but it was much traveled in pioneer times, not for pleasure but because of necessity. This was the only way for the people on this side to get to Kirk's mill, which was the main dependence for corn meal, and corn meal was the staff of life in those times.

In the early fifties there began quite an increase in the emigration from Ireland and Scotland. A great many of these emigrants came to Gibson

county, and most of them to this neighborhood. This emigration was induced, largely, by Rev. Dr. John Stott, who came from Ireland about that time, and became pastor of the Reformed Presbyterian church (Old Side) in Princeton. Most of those who came with him, or followed soon after, were Dr. Stott's parishioners in the old country. These Irish people were all of industrious habits and a good class of citizens. Some of those who came to this neighborhood had sufficient means to buy land and establish a home, but most of them came with small means and depended on day labor for a living. But they were ready and willing for any kind of work and they found no trouble in getting employment. In a few years, by thrift and economy, they were all able to purchase land and engage in farming on their own account. Many of them became quite well to do. Some of the best farms in this neighborhood were made by these Irish settlers, who started from a small beginning, and the development of this part of the county is largely due to their enterprise and industry. Among these early settlers who contributed their part to this development, and whose farms are within a half mile of where we are now standing, are the following: William Morrow, whose location has already been mentioned; John Mooney, the Mahans, Samuel, James, John and Hugh; James Morrow, James Boal, Henry Greer, Robert Dixon, William Lawson, and others. The Andersons, who came about the same time, settled on a good farm, on the State road, about four miles south of Princeton. All of these, and their descendants, were among the best citizens of the county.

#### RELIGIOUS HABITS OF THE COVENANTERS.

Taking them as a whole, the people of the neighborhood, over which we have taken this retrospective view, were above the average for intelligence and moral integrity. It was a strictly religious community, in the days of which we write. The people were nearly all of the Reformed Presbyterian faith, better known as "Covenanters". Some were "Old Side" and some "New Side", but whatever side they were on each and every one adhered strictly to the faith. While their religious habits were more pronounced on the Sabbath, it was not a "Sunday religion" that they practiced. Every day in the week it was exemplified, especially morning and evening, when the old family Bible was brought into service, and the old Psalms were sung and the long prayers were made. At this service, not only the children of the household were required to be present and take part, but also the man-servant, the maid-servant, and the hired hands, and the stranger that happened to be

within the gates. The hired hand, perchance, might be the man who drove three yoke of oxen during the day, and freely used expressions incident to such occupation, but that did not exempt him from singing psalms at the morning and evening worship. Everybody about the house knew when the Sabbath came, even the household dog understood that it was different from other days. Whatever inclination he might have to frisk and play on other days of the week, he learned, by instinct, that the frisky disposition should be suppressed on this day. No need of printed cards inviting everybody to "go to church today." Everybody went, by force of habit and without persuasion, and they remained for the two long sermons, with a short interval between for the cold biscuit refreshments. Unless the occasion was unusual, they got home by three or four o'clock, ready for the simple meal, the most of which had been prepared the day before. The rest of the afternoon and evening was occupied in reading the Bible and such religious literature as Baxter's "Saint's Rest," studying the catechism, etc., closing the day with answering questions in the catechism by all, old and young, followed by the usual family devotions. And this is the way the Sabbath was observed by the Covenanters who peopled this community. Quite a contrast between this and the modern way, with the Sunday baseball and other amusements. There may be those who are of the opinion that the modern manner of Sabbath observance is more conducive to good citizenship and higher ideals of character and conduct, but the truth of history, and a comparison of the past and present citizenship, does not sustain that opinion.

#### SCHOOLS AND SCHOOLMASTERS.

As most of these early settlers came from the South, where opportunities for education were usually limited, not many of them had an education beyond ability to read and write. But they knew the necessity of an education, and were concerned in providing better opportunities for their children than had been enjoyed by themselves. So the school house made its appearance very soon after the first settlement. The first school houses were of the primitive type, of course. They were built of logs, covered with clap-boards, wide chimney, built of sticks and daubed with mud. Furniture, split logs for benches, a rough board around the wall for a desk, and all the other appointments of corresponding simple character. One of these school houses was located near the Makemson home, as has already been mentioned. This, however, was somewhat in advance of some of the primitive type in its construction and furnishings. It was built of hewn logs and had glass windows,

and some benches made of plank. Among the teachers who wielded the birch at this place, for ability to wield the birch was an essential requisite for a teacher's qualification at that time, were James McConnell, Nelson K. Crow, Monroe Barton, John Kell, Lewis A. Townsend, and some others beyond memory's recall. Of these, Monroe Barton is still living, in St. Louis. Along about 1856 the neighbors decided to build a better school house, in a more convenient place. A subscription was raised by which sufficient funds were secured to build a frame building, which was located on the road directly opposite the William Stormont residence. This was called the Greenwood school house, and it still stands, though a little distance from its first location. In deciding on the plans for this house, there was some contention among the subscribers to the building fund as to the arrangements for heating. Some of the more progressive were in favor of a stove, but others argued that stoves were unhealthy and insisted that the old-fashioned fire-place was the only method that should be used in warming a school house. At one of the meetings in which this question was discussed, one of the most obstinate of the advocates for the fire-place said he had made a canvass of the neighborhood interested in the school and found a majority on his side. Some of those interviewed, he said, told him that there was more comfort in being outside in a cold day and seeing smoke coming from a chimney that had a fire-place, than being inside by a heated stove. And a majority of that meeting said, "them's my sentiments, too," and so the fire-place was decided on. But it was not a success. A stove had to be put in soon after the building was first occupied.

Of the long line of teachers who have held forth here the most noted is one by the name of D. L. Summers. He drifted in (drifted is right) about 1857. He was introduced in the neighborhood by a man by the name of Anderson, who was teaching a geography school in the neighborhood at that time. Anderson's geography instruction was by means of outline maps, set to music, and he made quite a hit with his method. He also made quite a hit for Summers, when he arranged for Summers to make a temperance lecture at the Greenwood school house. Summers made a powerful speech, the greatest temperance address, the most eloquent appeal in behalf of that cause that had ever been heard in that neighborhood. He proved to be a man of fine education, a graduate of Yale College, he claimed. He applied for a school at that place and was employed at a compensation greater than was usual for teachers of that time. In his one term here he did not show any marked ability as a teacher, although he was a great scholar. After one term



at Greenwood, Summers went to Francisco, where he was engaged in teaching for a time.

The Lawrence school house, near the Dustin Mills home, was somewhat more progressive than others of the neighborhood. It was the first frame building and had many other advanced ideas as to appointments. The Lawrence school was more largely attended and usually had better teachers than any of the others in the neighborhood. The Page school house, near the Morrow place, was a frame building, and was the educational center for the youth of that vicinity. And then there was an old log school house hid away in the bushes, in an out of the way place, on Indian creek, near the David Stormont farm. About the only advantage one could see in locating a school in a place like that, was that it was so convenient to the brush from which a supply of switches could be obtained. There was no reason why there should be any delay in the "lickin'" along with the "larnin'" in that school, and, so far as the memory of this writer goes, there wasn't any delay in this exercise.

#### A NOTABLE RECORD OF MILITARY SERVICE IN THE CIVIL WAR.

When the Civil war came, and there was a call for volunteers, the response made by the men and boys of this neighborhood was a credit to their loyalty and patriotism. It is not a matter of wonder that a community so largely composed of Scotch Covenanters should be loyal to their country, and be ready to make sacrifice, if need be, in defense of their convictions. They have a record for stalwart patriotism from their earliest history. In the Highlands of Scotland it is said of them that they were ever ready to do battle, or to sing psalms, and that they often engaged in both at the same time. It is not strange, that in a community composed of families who had borne constant testimony against a national evil and, failing to eradicate or restrain that evil, had abandoned home and sacrificed property in the Southland, that they might get themselves and their families away from all the blighting influences of that evil; it is not strange that a community of such people should train up sons who would be ready to manifest the faith and convictions of their fathers. It is not a matter of wonder that these sons would be ready to manifest the supreme test of patriotism, when occasion required it. It is not a matter of wonder that the exemplary life and benign influence of such people should have an impression, not only upon the families of their faith, but also upon the entire community. The notable record which was made by this neighborhood in enlistments in the Civil war must be attributed largely to this influence.



In the neighborhood comprising the four school districts that have been mentioned, a territory of about two miles square, something like one hundred men and boys enlisted in the army, most of them serving through the war. Many of them gave their lives in defense of the flag. Following are the names of those that can be recalled, and the regiment in which they served:

Seventeenth Indiana—John Aydelott, James Boal, Alex Carithers, Robert Dixon, John Mehan, Hugh Mehan, John O. Sprowl, Andrew R. Stormont, Joseph Davidson, James H. Paul, Thomas J. Stott, John Whitsett, Henry Greer, Joe Wilson.

Twenty-Fourth Indiana—George Griffin, David Legier, Frank M. Redburn, George McCue, P. Swain.

Thirty-Third Indiana—Henry Griffin, Frank M. Grigsby, David Kirk, William Makenson, Gavin M. Stormont, W. E. Townsend, William Virden, Henry Van Campen, Lewis VanCampen, Theo. W. Wallace, James A. Evans, W. L. Legier, James McFetridge.

Fifty-Eighth Indiana—John C. Clark, Hugh M. Clark, James T. Davidson, John Gillespie, William I. Gillespie, Jacob E. Gillespie, Byron Mills, Albert Mills, James Page, John Redburn, W. J. Redburn, W. L. Sprowl, John R. Sprowl, James A. Sprowl, Gil. R. Stormont, John M. Stormont, Samuel Lawrence, James Curry, Amos Legier, Thomas Johnson.

Sixty-Fifth Indiana—William Boswell, Thomas Boswell, Hugh Harbinson, James Hussey, James Lytle.

Eightieth Indiana—A. J. Carithers, John Clark, Hugh M. Clark, Jr., Simon Sprowl, J. Renwick Stormont, John C. Wilson, Samuel J. Wallace, James S. Kell, W. H. McCracken, James Carithers.

One Hundred and Twentieth Indiana—Dale Hussey.

One Hundred and Thirty-Third Indiana—James W. Little.

One Hundred and Thirty-Sixth Indiana—John Daugherty.

One Hundred and Forty-Third Indiana—Oscar Aydelotte, Anderson Makenson, Moses Griffin, J. W. Keith, Miller Murphy, William C. Lawrence, Samuel Murphy, Conrad Grubb.

Twenty-Fifth Iowa—Thomas Clark.

One Hundred and Fifteenth Illinois—George W. Mills, W. Gordon Mills.

First Indiana Cavalry—Daniel Conner, Eb Curry, Joe Daugherty, Sam McClellan, Harve McClellan.

Tenth Indiana Cavalry—William B. Whitsett.

Illinois Regiment—Jacob Behm, Blaine Kennett, Robert Curry.

## CHAPTER XXI.

### MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Under the above caption will be found many interesting, valuable items, which hardly find place in any special chapter, but when coupled with other topics afford one of the best historic chapters in this volume.

### POPULATION OF GIBSON COUNTY.

The population, as recorded in the United States census returns for 1900 and 1910, for Gibson county is as follows:

	1900	1910		1900	1910
Barton township -----	2,151	1,866	Patoka township -----	8,712	9,439
Center township -----	1,646	1,549	Union township -----	2,149	2,507
Columbia township ---	3,565	3,588	Wabash township -----	1,076	951
Johnson township ----	1,991	2,370	Washington township --	1,904	1,546
Montgomery township -	4,196	4,279	White River township--	2,934	2,602
<i>Cities and Towns.</i>	1900	1910	<i>Cities and Towns.</i>	1900	1910
Princeton (city) -----	6,041	6,448	Patoka -----	710	657
Owensville -----	1,019	1,237	Francisco -----		407
Fort Branch -----	849	1,182	Oakland City -----	1,991	2,370
Hazleton -----	758	648			

Other towns in the county are included in the enumeration of the civil townships in which they are situated.

The total population of the county in 1900 was 30,099 and in 1910 was 30,137.

### SALE OF A NEGRO GIRL.

The following is a true copy of one of the early-day legal papers executed in Gibson county, and still remains a part of the county's records, though the paper and ink are somewhat faded with the passage of an even hundred years:

"Know all men by these presents that I, John Goodwyn, of the county

of Gibson and Indiana Territory, for and in consideration of the sum of \$371 to me in hand paid at or before the en sealing and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof I, the said John Goodwyn, do hereby acknowledge, have bargained and sold and by these presents do bargain and sell unto Benjamin Scales, his executors, administrators or assigns, a certain negro woman named Dina, aged about seventeen years, to have and to hold the said negro woman (Dina) above bargained, sold or mentioned or intended so to be, to the said Benjamin Scales, his heirs, executors, administrators or assigns for ever. And I, the said John Goodwyn, myself, my heirs, executors, administrators or assigns unto the said Benjamin Scales, his heirs, etc., shall, will and do warrant and defend against me, my heirs, etc., and all and every person claiming under me as well as against the claim or claims of all and every other person or persons whatsoever. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this the 20th day of October, 1813.

"Attest: Henry Hopkins,

JOHN GOODWYN. (Seal.)

"Jonathan Evans.

"Recorded this 20th day of October, 1813.

"ROBERT M. EVANS, *Recorder.*"

#### LIBERATING NEGRO SLAVES IN GIBSON COUNTY.

On March 18, 1816, Matthew, a negro man, seemingly agreed with his master, James Lyon, and consented to be removed from Gibson county to any other state or territory as a slave for life and the instrument goes on in the record to state "the same may be recorded."

On the 4th of July, 1814, Robert M. Evans emancipated a black man named John Born, who was formerly a slave in Virginia, then owned by Benjamin Taylor and after the ownership passed to Evans and the removal to this territory he was liberated, as above stated, which was a commendable act performed by Mr. Evans on the anniversary of the natal day of our great Republic. Now then, the next day, July 5th, an instrument was placed on record which shows that which purports to be a generous act of Evans was simply a farce on liberty and justice—because on that day the negro man John became an indentured servant to Evans for thirty years, and on the 21st of December, 1814, for the consideration of five hundred and fifty dollars Robert M. Evans sold and transferred John (the colored man) to Nathaniel Evans.

Another case was that of a colored family. On April 17, 1816, the legal heirs and representatives of Robert Archer, deceased, of Gibson county, caused to be placed on record a deed granting liberty to Simpson, a man of

color, and Eve, a woman of color, and in behalf of themselves, and for and in behalf of Mitchell and Rachel, infant children of the said Eve, for and in consideration of the sum of one dollar paid by the said Simpson and Eve, and, in the terms of the deed "forever exonerate and discharge and for and in consideration of five years faithful servitude of the said Simpson and Eve, rendered heretofore to the family of our deceased father, in his lifetime, and abhorring, as we do, the idea of involuntary servitude, have and by these presents each of us hath from this henceforward and forever more exonerated, discharged and set free, the said Simpson, Eve, Mitchell and Rachel from any and all manner of servitude."

This was signed, sealed and delivered before Samuel Hoge, Jr., and ten other citizens of Gibson county.

#### A SLAVE-TRADE TRICK.

While slaves could not be legally kept in slavery in the Northwest Territory, they could be retained in a form of servitude that was in reality slavery. Here is one of the forms of deception and evasion the ignorant negroes were led or forced to sign so they could be sold in slavery in Indiana.

"Knox County—I do voluntarily agree and consent to my sale and transfer from George Wallace, Jr., to Tossaint Dubois for the balance of my term of servitude. Witness my hand and seal the 30th day of June, 1813.

"The mark of (X) Samuel. (Seal.)"

This was sworn to before a notary and then appeared the following further statement: "I, Sam, being of full age, do hereby voluntarily agree to and consent to the sale and transfer from Toussaint Dubois to Jacob Kuykendall, it having been made at my particular request, for the balance of my term of servitude. Witness my hand and seal this 18th day of November, 1814. The mark (X) Sam."

It may be presumed that Sam's "particular request" was granted. The government occasionally got onto the trail of grafting in the old days just as it does sometimes now. Here is a sample from among Judge Prince's papers:

"Department of War,  
"11th of August, 1819.

"William Prince, Esq., Indian Agent, Vincennes—Sir: The fraudulent conduct of Mitchell Brouillett in relation to the provisions for Indians at Fort Harrison in the year 1817, 1818, entitles him to no further confidence from

the government. You will therefore dismiss him as interpreter from the United States service without delay.

"I am very respectfully, your obedient servant.

"J. C. CALHOUN."

A clerk had written the order, and the rather flourishing hand of the famous South Carolinian, John C. Calhoun, had signed it. There are also other communications to Agent Prince from Mr. Calhoun, then secretary of war and having supervision of Indian affairs.

EXTRACTS FROM VALUABLE HISTORICAL PAPERS.

There appeared in the columns of the *Clarion-News* in March, 1913, at the date of the centennial celebration of Gibson county, several interesting paragraphs from which we are permitted to here quote. They relate largely to items found in papers, books and letters belonging to Judges Prince and Hall. Many of these papers are bills or duplicates of bills rendered against the government for Indian supplies when Captain Prince was serving as Indian agent at Vincennes, and to those of this day who have been accustomed to think of the olden-time Indian as gathering his substance from the wilds some of these bills sound odd. In 1820 Pierre Laplante of Vincennes had a bill of one hundred and thirteen dollars, including in it items for six dollars for transporting the annuity to the Wea Indians at Fort Harrison, and another for six dollars—two dollars a day—for rounding up the Indians to pay them off. There were also large bills for bullocks and other meat, corn, whisky, caring for horses, repairing guns, etc. One gunsmith's bill ran over four hundred dollars in a year for making gun and other repairs for the Indians. Seventy-five cents for repairing a tomahawk was not an unusual charge—imagine the untutored savage (or was he better tutored than we have thought) carrying his tomahawk into the gunsmith's shop and getting seventy-five cents worth of repairs on it. How these Indians did eat, too! Every day must have been Thanksgiving with them, judging from the bills they ran up against the government. Whisky went out to them in twenty-gallon lots, and the supply did not last long either! Especially, were the bills big when a pow-wow or treaty conference was about to be held.

Most of the items seem to have been ordered by chiefs for their personal use, and it appears there were more chiefs than "privates." A chief seems to have had the privilege of going the limit. August 23, 1820, Christian Graeter put in his bill of three dollars thirty-seven and one-half cents for

breakfast for nine Delaware chiefs; he also had a bill of seven dollars for keeping two Indian horses seven days; and one of nine dollars and fifty cents for "keeping Indian horses brought in by white people as estrays." One claim of one thousand four hundred and seventy-eight dollars was rendered February 5, 1821, for money advanced for provisions for the Delawares who were en route from the White River country to Arkansas—driven onward by treaty with the whites. Evidently they tarried quite a spell there, and were fed at the government's expense.

#### BEE HUNTING.

Bee hunting was a favorite amusement of the old settlers. The destiny of the Indian was to recede before the approach of the white man; it is the province of the honey bee to act on the reverse and precede the advent of civilization. The approach of the honey bee was always a sad harbinger to the Indians, for they knew the pale faces were not far behind. At an early date bees were very numerous in Indiana in the groves and along the skirts of timber, hence the product of the hive became a desirable commodity in trade and commerce. When the farmer wished a little "land office" money this was the only real article that would readily command it. Bee hunting excursions were of annual occurrence. In the spring of 1817 William Wilkinson and others made a little excursion down to Pigeon creek where they camped and remained a week. In the timber along that stream they discovered thirty bee trees. The party secured during that trip fifty-five gallons of honey and seventy pounds of bees-wax. The usual outfit for such a trip was a lot of kettles and a wagon drawn by a team of oxen.

#### PIONEER MILLS.

Among the first mills of Gibson county were the band mills. A description of one of these primitive mills may not be without interest at this day. The plan was cheap. The horse-power consisted of a large upright shaft some ten or twelve feet in height, with some eight or ten long arms let into the main shaft and extended out from it fifteen feet. Augur holes were bored into the arms on the upper side at the end, into which wooden pins were driven. This was called the "big wheel" and was, as has been seen, about twenty feet in diameter. The raw-hide belt or tug was made of skin taken off of beef cattle which were cut into strips three inches in width; these were then twisted into round cords or tugs, long enough to encircle the cir-

cumference of the big wheel. There it was held in place by the wooden pins, then to cross and pass under a shed to run around a drum of what is called a "trunnel head," which was attached to the grinding apparatus. The horses or oxen were hitched to the arms by means of raw-hide tugs. Then walking in a circle, the machinery was set in motion. To grind twelve bushels of corn was considered a good day's work on a band mill.

The most rude and primitive method of manufacturing meal was by the use of the grater. A plate of tin was pierced with many holes so that one side was very rough. The tin is nailed over a board, in an oval shape. An ear of corn was rubbed hard on this grater, whereby the meal was forced through the holes and fell down into a vessel, prepared to receive it. An improvement on this was a hand-mill, which was propelled by man or woman power. A hole is made in the upper stone and a staff of wood is put in it and the other end of the staff is put through a hole in a plank above so that the whole is free to act. One or two persons take hold of this staff and turn the upper stone as rapidly as possible. An eye is made in the upper stone through which the corn is put into the mill with the hand in small quantities to suit the mill, instead of a hopper. A mortar wherein corn was beaten into meal is made out of a large round log three or four feet long. One end is cut or burnt out so as to hold a peck of corn, more or less, according to circumstances. This mortar is set one end on the ground and the other up to hold the corn. A sweep is prepared over the mortar so that the spring of the pole raises the piston and the hands force it so hard down on the corn that after much beating meal is manufactured.

#### EARLY MARRIAGES.

During the year of 1813 the following were united in marriage in Gibson county:

- June 18, Willis Stallions to Mary Stallions.
- July 9, James Cheek to Nancy West.
- July 25, Lemuel Baldwin to Jane Lynn.
- July 28, Michael Thomas to Amelia Merick.
- October 28, James W. Hogue to Rosanna Archer.
- August 5, Robert Wheeler to Elizabeth Barker.
- August 14, William Kennedy to Ann McCra.
- September 24, William Steel to Martha Butner.
- September 25, James R. Nett to Celia Jarvis.
- October 4, James Tyler to Eliza Graham.

October 9, David Hornaday to Hannah Whitehead.

October 19, Henry I Mills to Rachel Dyer.

October 14, Ace Holcomb to Lucy Devin.

October 17, Vachel Clarke to Nancy Adams.

October 19, Thomas Shields to Abigail Martin.

October 26, James Ashby to Charlotte Decker.

December 17, William Simpson to Rhody Herrine.

December 16, Benmah Gregg to Julia Fisher.

December 16, James Linn to Sarah Baldwin.

December 27, Archibald Turner to Caty White.

Rev. Alexander Devin was among the first settlers and on June 6, 1808, he united in marriage James McClure and Malinda Ann Warrick, this being beyond doubt, the first marriage among the white people to take place on the south side of the Patoka river, in Indiana. It was of course the first marriage within what is now Gibson county.

#### MARKET PRICES THEN AND NOW.

From old histories and files of newspapers of this county, the following prices obtained at an early date, and these will be followed by present-day quotations:

About 1816 and 1820 good calico sold here for fifty cents per yard and domestic at about the same proportion. Goods of the same quality in 1835 could have been purchased for eight cents per yard. Along about 1825 homespun of the best quality of jeans woven by the diligent hands of the wives and daughters of pioneers brought from seventy-five to eighty cents per yard. The industrious house wife considered if she had woven one and one-half yards of good cloth that she had performed a good day's work. Linen made from flax brought thirty cents per yard. The usual price for coffee in 1816 was seventy-five cents per pound. Pork, much of it mast-fatted, sold during the inflated period of 1836-37 for six dollars per hundred pounds dressed and about the same general prices ruled for other stock. It is no wonder that the panic occurred with such an inflated condition of what was then mostly a worthless currency. Dressed pork prior to this, from 1816 to 1835, brought only one dollar and fifty cents to two dollars per hundred. Butter sold from 1820 to 1830, at about six and one-fourth cents per pound and wheat averaged about fifty cents per bushel. From 1820 to 1835 corn and oats average about fifteen cents per bushel. In 1816 the price of salt here was three dollars per bushel and the average price for a first class cow and calf was not over seven



dollars. A good horse could be bought for twenty-five dollars. The following bill of sale is subjoined:

"Know all men by these presents that I George Curtis do give a bill of sale to Eli Hawkins (for the sum of fifty dollars it being for value received of him, this 13th day of July, 1813). A gray mare about eight years old fourteen and one-half hands high, one dark brindle cow, with a calf, a heifer a year old this spring, whose color is red and white, one bed and furniture, one cupboard and furniture, kitchen utensils, a set of shoemaker's tools, one table, chest and trunk, also house and two half acre lots lying in Columbia, west of John Severn's lots, which I the said Curtis purchased of Samuel Adams, Gibson county, Indiana Territory. In witness whereinto I set my hand and seal this day and date above mentioned.

"Attest V. Clark.

GEORGE CURTIS.

"Recorded the 2d day of August, 1813."

Coming down to the present date, the following market quotations are given as the common prices. Mark the contrast in many items with those named above: Calico, five to seven cents; bleached muslin, ten to twelve cents; wire nails, three cents per pound; butter, thirty cents; eggs, twenty-five cents; sugar, best, seven cents; coffee, from twenty to thirty-five cents; corn, sixty-five cents; wheat, ninety-five cents; oats, forty-two cents; cattle, \$9.50 per cwt.; hogs, \$7.50 per cwt.; sheep, \$3.00 to \$3.50 per head; coal oil, ten to fifteen cents per gallon. The chances are that all manufactured goods will always be cheaper and food stuffs and all products of the pasture, field and orchard will, as the population increases, become higher.

#### VILLAGE PLATS.

The county records show the following town or village plats which have at various dates been laid off in Gibson county:

BUENA VISTA—In Washington civil township, on section 13, township 1, range 10 west, March 30, 1848, by Samuel T. Decker and wife.

DONGOLA—March 10, 1851, on the Patoka river, by William Carpenter and Isaac Steele. (Now defunct.)

ECONOMY—(Defunct) by Isaac Casselberry, October 15, 1838.

FRANCISCO—In Center township, January 6, 1851, on the north half of the northeast quarter of section 19, township 2, range 9 west, by John Perkins.

FORT BRANCH—In Union township, on section 13, township 3, range 11 west, by Embree McIntire, October 7, 1859.

HAUBSTADT (once Haub's Station)—In Johnson township, on section 31, township 3, range 10 west, by James H. Oliver.

HAZELTON—July 25, 1855, by Gervase and David Hazelton, in White River township.

JOHNSON—April 17, 1911, on the east half of the southeast quarter of section 4, township 3, range 12 west, by Warrick D. Johnson.

KIRKSVILLE—July 4, 1856, by Davis & Price and Hussey & Mills, on the northeast of the southwest of section 19, township 1, range 9 west.

MACKEY—In Barton township, on the northeast corner of the east half of section 15, township 3, range 9 west, by Henry Meyer, October 20, 1893.

EAST MT. CARMEL—In White River township, on section 28, township 1, range 12 west, by W. D. Daniels and Emily D. Pickerell, June 27, 1897.

McKAW SUMMIT—On section 13, township 2, range 11 west, by Joseph and Olivia McCarty, May 5, 1904.

OAKLAND CITY (originally Oakland)—By James Cockrum and Warrick Hargrove, on section 18, township 2, range 8 west, in Columbia township, January 15, 1856.

OWENSVILLE—In Montgomery township, by Philip Brisco, February 18, 1817.

PORT GIBSON—On section 3, township 3, range 10 west, in Patoka township, May 26, 1852, by E. Embree and Samuel Shannon.

PATOKA (once known as Smithland, also Columbia) was platted October 13, 1813, on section 25, township 1, range 11 west, by Lewis J. Smith. It is in White River township.

SKELTON—On section 17, township 2, range 12, July 26, 1911, by William T. Watson.

SMITHFIELD—Section 11, township 1, range 11 west, by Stephen L. Field, June 9, 1838.

SUMMITVILLE (now Somersville)—April 12, 1854, by John E. Smith, in Barton township, on section 2, township 3, range 9 west.

WARRENTON—On section 16, township 4, range 10 west, by John Withrow and W. B. Pritchett, April 30, 1840, in Johnson civil township.

WINDHAM—On section 19, township 2, range 9 west, April 5, 1855, by Franklin and Rebecca Ritchey.

PRINCETON—Original platting was made by County Agent Robert M. Evans, March 28, 1814.

## TOWNS, PAST AND PRESENT.

Among the Gibson county towns that have "passed over" was Buena Vista, in Washington township, on White river above Hazelton. This was the location of the old Decker ferry, the first on White river in this county. For a while the little town boomed, but when the Evansville & Terre Haute railroad went the Hazelton route instead of the Buena Vista route it proved a death blow and Washington township was left without a town.

King Station, south of Princeton, came into existence with the building of the Evansville & Terre Haute railroad about 1851-2. For a year or more the road's terminal was at the old King farm about a half mile north of the present station. A turntable was used there and a stage coach carried passengers on north.

Lyle's Station, four miles west of Princeton, has the unique distinction of having been settled entirely by colored people. Years ago a colony of colored people bought a large body of land in the Cherry Grove vicinity, and some of them are still living on the lands then purchased.

East Mt. Carmel, on the Wabash, across from Mt. Carmel, Illinois, came into existence about twenty years ago, when W. D. Daniel was getting out piling there. The postoffice name was changed to Feters, for William Feters, merchant, because there was a Carmel in Indiana. There is no post-office there now, though it is quite a settlement.

Dongala is another Gibson county town of the past. It was on the Patoka river near the Pike county line, and was laid out in 1851 with a public square and broad avenue-like streets. The Wabash and Erie canal promised to make it a real city, but it died with the canal.

## CYCLONES.

In June, 1814, the first cyclone passed over Gibson county, passing from a northwesterly to an easterly direction. The Barker house, on Hall's hill adjoining Princeton, was destroyed and many other evidences of destruction were left in the path. The trees of the forest were torn up by the roots, crops were leveled to earth, and odds and ends of furniture, farm implements, etc., were scattered to the distance of miles from their base. William Barnes, who lived on a farm north of Patoka, described another cyclone which passed over this section in 1839. About three o'clock in the afternoon, as he relates, the atmosphere became oppressive and dark, the birds gathered close into the

boughs of the trees, and a peculiar odor was present. The cloud came up out of the west in a funnel shape, with a ball of fire revolving in its apex as it rolled along. The phenomena crossed a wheat field and burnt the stalks off, leaving a path of black ashes in its wake. Rip Van Winkle might have told this tale to his tavern cronies.

On Sunday evening, February 27, 1876, Princeton was visited with the most severe cyclone which ever passed over the county. The storm came from the southwest. Almost the entire southern part of the city was demolished by the wind. Many peculiarities incident to the type of storm were present. In 1880 another wind storm visited the county.

#### FLAT BOATING.

Between the years of 1823 and 1840 the trade carried on by means of flat boats reached its highest point. The Devin brothers were noted during this time as boatmen. Most of the boats were sent to the New Orleans markets, corn and pork, and occasionally wheat, forming the cargoes. The Patoka, Wabash, Ohio and Mississippi rivers formed the highways of travel. Five men usually manned each boat, one of whom acted as captain. Patoka was generally the starting point for produce from this county. In the winter of 1836-37 the Devin brothers packed and shipped nearly a million pounds of pork. Col. James W. Cockrum was also engaged during this time in the flat boat trade.

#### FEAR OF FIRST STOVES.

When the first stoves appeared, not so long ago as many might imagine, they were regarded with awe and fear in many instances, and when coal first began to be used in stoves some were so afraid of it that they would put the fire out at night, and gingerly, and with constant expectation that something was going to happen, would rebuild it the next day. The same fear was shown for the first coal oil lamps, and it is told of one well known Princeton lady that when her husband brought home her first coal oil lamp she made him take it out into the garden, some distance from the house, to light it.

#### FIRST LEGAL HANGING.

The first legal execution in Gibson county was that of William Thomas Camp, for the murder of J. R. Bilderback, both men residents of Pike county. The two men had traveled together to Haubstadt, Camp walking and Bilder-

back on horseback. Reaching Haubstadt they failed to obtain lodging, so decided to camp in the woods a short distance away. Bilderback lay down and went to sleep, and Camp, with a hickory club he had picked up, struck him on the head and killed him. He threw the body into the top of a fallen tree. The motive of the crime was the theft of a note for seventy-five dollars which Bilderback held on Camp. After committing the deed, Camp rode the horse to New Harmony, in Posey county, where he was arrested. He was brought back to Haubstadt and there he pointed out the evidences of his crime and the location of the body. A coroner's jury was obtained, and to them Camp made his confession. After being put in jail at Princeton he made his escape, and for a long time was hidden. He afterward went to Kentucky, where he was rearrested for horse-stealing and placed in jail at Owensboro. He was brought back to Gibson county for trial and convicted at the July term of court, 1872, of murder in the first degree. He was sentenced to be hung on Friday, October 4th, but Governor Baker granted him a respite until Friday, November 22d, when, at two o'clock, he was executed by the then sheriff, F. W. Hauss.

#### GETTING "CHURCHED."

In the old days of Gibson county, sixty or more years ago, it was no trouble at all to get fired from church membership. It is related that in the Methodist congregation here—and it is presumed that the same is true of the other congregations—dismissals were frequent for playing cards, attending races at the old straight race course in north Race street or elsewhere, dancing, going to a circus—the latter an unpardonable sin—and various other reasons that are today openly or tacitly condoned by most churches. A member would perhaps be called to account and voted out by the congregation one Sunday, if believed guilty, and the next Sunday would rejoin.

#### STAGE COACH DAYS.

P. R. Baldridge, who has interesting recollections of Princeton from back in the thirties, relates an incident that was carried off by some of the young fellows here during the existence of the old market house, which stood on the north side of the court yard. The stage coach from Vincennes to Evansville was driven by William Green, who died recently in Vincennes at the age of one hundred, and this was the half-way place where the night stop-over was made. One night after driver Green had gone to bed at the

tavern, kept by a widow, Mrs. Ing, about where the Gilbert store now is, Ben Howe, Green Thompson, Samuel Archer, Mr. Baldrige and some of the other mischievous ones put the old stage coach up on top of the market house, which was a low building. The next morning Green fussed and fumed when he saw what had been done, saying he would not be able to make the trip on time, but after worrying him a while, the same ones who had put the coach up quickly took it down and started Mr. Green on his way rejoicing.

Mr. Baldrige says at that time there was also a stage to Owensville and New Harmony, which was known as the "jerk-water." It was driven by Joel Minniweather.

James Scantlin also tells a stage coach story of how his father, the late Thomas Scantlin, and some others, at an early date, one night took the Petersburg stage coach apart, carried it up on the roof of the court house and there reassembled it. The driver was caused considerable worry until the jokers brought the coach down the same way they had taken it up.

#### PASSING OF THE OLD SURVEY MARKS.

By Garrard M. Emmerson.

On May 7 in the year 1800 the territory now forming the great states of Ohio and Indiana was cut off or out of the then Northwest territory and subdivided by a line running north from the mouth of the Kentucky river to the lakes, all east of this line being called Ohio and all west of it Indiana. This land at this time was a trackless wilderness. There were no section, township, range or county lines, no roads, no bridges, no ferries, no means of intercommunication from one point to another, except an Indian trail from Vincennes to Louisville. The whole country was one vast unmarked, uncharted wilderness, covered with magnificent trees, oak, poplar, ash, walnut and many other varieties, many of them so large that few men now living ever saw or will ever see anything equaling them in size and beauty.

The present system of dividing the public lands had been invented and adopted, but no work had been done at this time. The system of surveying is sometimes credited to Thomas Jefferson, but he really did not invent it, but did approve and encourage its adoption.

The first surveying within the present boundaries of Gibson county by the United States surveyors was begun on the 27th of October, 1804, by Bradley and Breathitt in the extreme eastern part of the county. The surveyors who did the work in this county were Bradley, Breathitt, Brown, Buckingham, Rector and Sullivan. This man Sullivan was one of the ances-

tors of the Sullivan and Kirks now living in the north part of the county to-day. Rector began surveying in Ohio, worked through Gibson county and over into Illinois, and was finally shot by an Indian, who thought that he had killed him. But Rector managed to fall into a creek, swim across, and get into camp. However, he died the next day. The creek is called Rector's creek to this day. It is in Saline county, Illinois.

Ziba Foote, for whom Foote's pond was named, was another of those United States surveyors, but there is no record of any of his work, as he was drowned soon after beginning his labors. He was an educated man and ambitious to get on in the world, and was engaged to be married to an intelligent, educated young woman. He had been at work in Michigan, but finished there, went to Cincinnati, secured a contract in southern Indiana, floated down the Ohio to Louisville, walked out here, and probably was drowned the first day he went to work. The killing of Rector, the drowning of Foote, and the following items copied from one of the surveyor's books of field notes, will show some of the physical difficulties to be overcome in doing the work:

"Nov. 9—Our horses strayed off.

"Nov. 10—No horses; all hands hunting horses.

"Nov. 11—No horses.

"Nov. 12—An Indian gave us some information of them.

"Nov. 13—In the evening the horses were brought to camp.

"Sunday, March 23, 1806—My pack-horseman and marker declared they could not wade so much water, and would not stay with me longer. I remonstrated with them, but to no avail.

"Returned June, 1806, to finish this township."

The general plan of dividing up the public lands may be stated as follows: A meridian line (north and south) was run. Next an east and west line, called a base line, was run. Then, beginning at the intersection of these two lines, the land was laid out in townships six miles square. The first row of these townships lying south of the base line is called town or township 1 south. The first row of these townships adjacent to the meridian line and west of it is called range 1 west. Any land lying in the first township laid out would be in township 1 south, range 1 west. These townships were then subdivided into thirty-six sections. By this system of designating lands it is plainly seen how easy it is to locate any piece of land by description, viz.: The northwest quarter of section 7 in township 2 south, range 11 west, of the sec-

ond principal meridian, would indicate the vicinity of Princeton at once to anyone in the habit of following these things.

These surveyors were supposed to keep accurate notes of their work and observations, as follows: "Monday, Nov. 1, 1804--Began at the southwest corner of section 36, township 2 south, range 9 west, ran north 2.70 (two chains and 70 links) to a hickory twelve inches in diameter, 15 chains to a stream ten links wide, course southwest, 20 chains to a white oak 24 inches in diameter; 40 chains quarter-section corner; put post from which a white oak 14 inches in diameter bears north 12 degrees, east 14 links, and a hickory 12 inches in diameter south 37 degrees west 20 links; 60 chains a stream 40 links wide, course southeast; 80 chains section corner of 35, 36, 25, and 26. Put post from which a white oak 24 inches in diameter bears north 25 degrees west 16 links distant; another white oak 30 inches in diameter bears south 24 degrees east, 22 links distant. Timber, oak, hickory, dogwood, 2d rate land."

The hickory and white oak first mentioned on this line were called line, sight or fore and aft trees and were notched or hacked with three hacks on the south and north sides, and were of use to subsequent surveyors in locating lines and corners. The others mentioned were what are known as witness trees; at the northwest corner of section 36 a post was planted, and the figures indicate the size, the course and distance of the same from the corner.

Of all the thousands of these witness and line trees only about a dozen remain in Gibson county. Of all these line trees the writer, with an accurate knowledge of the county, remembers only three now standing, one a beech on the north line of location No. 8, now owned by George Peed. One stands on the east line of the northeast quarter of section 33, township 2, range 12, now owned by Miss Martha Waters and others in Montgomery township; and there was, a short time since, another on this same line, north of the northeast corner of this last named tract. There may be one or two more, and some of those named may be gone by this time.

Of all the witness trees the writer only recalls the following: Two on the range line between ranges 9 and 10, both elms, one near the residence of Philip Reinhart, the other seven hundred or eight hundred feet north of the Southern railroad. Another stands at the southeast corner of the northeast quarter of section 17, township 3, range 11, near the home of Jesse Dunlap. Another stands at the southeast corner of the home of the late L. N. Montgomery on the Posey county line. These last two are the only ones known not to have been chopped into and the marks cut out and practically destroyed. Another stands at the northeast corner of the southeast quarter of 23-3-13, now owned by Forman E. Knowles.



These witness trees were marked, showing the number of the section, township and range. For instance, the tree mentioned at the corner of sections 35, 36, 25, and 26, was blazed facing the corner. In this blaze was cut the letter S, and the number of the section it stood upon. These figures and letters are as plain today as when cut, provided they have not been disturbed. A few years since another stood just east of Foote's pond, near where Foote was buried, and probably was the only one marked by him. Whether it is still standing or not is not known.

There may be three or four others, but it is believed this includes all, and it is highly probable that one or two of these are now gone. Many of these would have died and decayed by the natural course of nature, but many have been ruthlessly and uselessly destroyed that might have been preserved for the interest of the antiquary and the old surveyors.

#### INCIDENTS AND SKETCHES OF EARLY TIMES.

To L. O. Emmerson, of Oakland City, credit is due for the subject matter which follows under this head. Mr. Emmerson has written a great deal relating to the incidents of early times in Gibson county, and these articles have appeared in the local papers from time to time. It is from these articles that the following extracts are made, with such revision as has been deemed necessary for the purpose of this publication:

#### THE BIG WELL AT SOMERVILLE.

What is known as the "big well," at Somerville, was dug in the summer of 1854. There was not even a shower to lay the dust from July 1st to September 18th, and the farmers surrounding Somerville joined the Irish on the railroad in digging this well. It is about fifty feet deep and about eight feet in diameter. The work of digging this well was directed by John Martin, father of D. M. Martin, of Oakland City. It was a great work. On reaching the depth of about fifty feet, a heavy blast was placed and a shovel full of fire was thrown in, and a tremendous explosion followed. When all was still there was a gurgling sound heard, but the smoke was too thick to see the results. "Pat" Flanigan could hardly wait to go down to see the results of the big blast, and as soon as he could go he got into the bucket and was lowered at a rapid rate. All at once he found himself submerged to his shoulders in very cold water. He yelled up as loud as he could, "Mike, by the Holy Saint Mary, draw me up quick, or I will be scalded to death. The well is full

of boiling water." He had mistaken cold for hot. Parties went to work with buckets to draw out the water so that the loose rock torn by the blast might be removed, but, with all their drawing, in ten hours the well stood thirty feet in the finest water in the whole country. As this was a kind of partnership well between the farmers and railroad people, all came here for water. People for ten miles came and hauled water from this well and after drawing constantly for days at a time would not lower the water more than two feet and it would recover this two feet in just a little while. During many dry years since this time, the big well at Somerville has been Barton township's chief supply.

#### FAITH IN JOHN M'MASTER'S PRAYERS.

The people in Somerville and vicinity were of the old type of Covenanters, and for many years the preaching place was in the woods, under a large sugar tree about three-quarters of a mile south of Somerville. Many a powerful sermon was preached here. The people would assemble at ten o'clock and the first sermon would continue until noon. Then there would be a half hour intermission for lunch. Then the second sermon would begin and sometimes last until three or four o'clock in the afternoon. The Rev. John Kell was the first minister to preach at Somerville. Then came Rev. Samuel Baldrige and after him Rev. John McMaster. It was in September, 1854, after a long dry season that Rev. McMaster came to preach. The whole country was parched and dry, stock was suffering and dying for water. In the morning service McMaster made a special prayer for rain, and the prayer was fully an hour long. About the middle of the afternoon the worshippers were startled by a keen clap of thunder; a cloud had formed and was coming on at a rapid pace. The congregation ran to an old log school house nearby, and barely gained shelter, when a perfect deluge of rain came down. Uncle Rube Martin was there and his belief in Rev. McMaster was very great, so when the rain began to pour Uncle Rube struck his fist in the palm of his hand and said: "Dipend men, I told you McMaster's prayer would fetch it," and Rube did truly believe that the rain was in answer to that prayer, and who knows but he was right? Uncle Rube soon went into the army and received his death wound in the cedar woods at Stone's River.



REV. JOHN McMASTER, D. D.,



## PIONEER INDUSTRIES—OAKLAND CITY.

The land on which Oakland City stands was settled by Jesse Houchins. He sold out to Col. James W. Cockrum about the year 1827. Cockrum soon went south and engaged in steam-boating for a few years, and about the year 1835 returned and repurchased the greater part of the land now occupied by Oakland City, from Richard Barrett, who then lived in a small house which stood near where Mrs. H. C. Vicker's residence now stands. The well of this old residence is the same one that now supplies Mrs. Vickers with water. Mr. Cockrum lived here for several years, and here Col. W. M. Cockrum was born, who still owns the land on which the old house stood and refuses to sell it at any price. He removed the old house several years ago and it now stands in his yard near his residence, with a lot of the old household furniture which belonged to his father and mother in it. His father's old hunting rifle, which he called the "Tormentor," hangs in a gun rack over the door. The old dogirons used by his father are still in the old wood fireplace. In fact this old house and contents are the greatest old relics remaining of Oakland.

Col. James W. Cockrum was the father of the town of Oakland City and did more to build up the town than any other man. Another very prominent man in founding this town was Jacob W. Hargrove. Mr. Hargrove lived on a large farm of several hundred acres just east of town, where he lived the greater part of his life. He was one of Oakland City's first merchants and was also a big dealer in leaf tobacco and other farm products. He was also a stock dealer and a miller. In the year 1855 he, in company with Col. James W. Cockrum and several other gentlemen, built a steam grist and flour mill on the Old Straight Line railroad, on the ground now occupied by Dr. McGowan's stable yard and garden, and built a miller's residence where the Doctor's residence now stands. This mill cost about eight thousand dollars, a large sum for this early day. There was a woolen mill in connection with the flour mill. This proved to be an unprofitable investment. This mill burned down about twenty-five years ago.

## THE BEGINNING OF BUCKSKIN.

In the early days of Gibson county a road was opened from Boonville, Warrick county, to Princeton, in Gibson county. As there were but few farms cleared between the two places, this road was built on the shortest route, regardless of the land lines. It was cut through the woods nearly all

the way and was used as the stage line between the two towns. The great, awkward stage coach lumbered back and forth and all the traveling men going from one of these towns to the other took passage in this coach. It also carried the mail. Now along this road lived several men who made their living hunting game, and all the deer hides or other pelts they had to sell were sent to Boonville or Princeton, and as these hunters never knew just when the stage would pass their locality, they would take their skins to the roadside and put their mark on them and hang them up in some conspicuous place. When the stage came along the driver would gather up the hides he thus found and deliver them to the merchants in one or the other of said towns, who knew the marks and would give the hunter to whom they belonged proper credit for them. Thus the travelers in the stage coach would see the driver stop every mile or two and gather up the deer skins which he found hanging up by the roadside. Soon this route became known as the Buckskin road. This name became general throughout the whole country and for many years remained unchanged, until the farmers along the route began to straighten the road and put it on the lines. This road left the old State road at the Young place, just south of Princeton, and ran in a southeasterly direction. It passed just south of the poor farm to Port Gibson and from there on to Lynnville, in Warrick county, and from there almost due south to Boonville. For many years this was the main route to all this country between Boonville and Princeton, and along this line the early settlers clustered and small business places sprang up along the road, such as cooper shops, blacksmith shops and other industries.

Along in the early fifties there came a young German from Evansville by the name of Emil Sasse, and started a small store on this road, near the eastern line of Gibson county. His business at first was a kind of settlers' canteen, with a few groceries, powder, lead and other small wares. He also secured a postoffice and named it "Buckskin," after the road on which it was located. His business was prosperous from the start. It was fifteen or twenty miles to any other point where people could trade and he did a good business. His brother, Theodore, was in business in Evansville and soon sold out and joined Emil at Buckskin. They increased their stock and built a larger store. Trade rushed in and people came for ten miles in every direction, and the Sasses were the busiest men in the whole country. Emil Sasse was twice elected treasurer of Gibson county. After the closing out of the Sasse store at Buckskin the Evansville & Indianapolis railroad was built. It ran about a mile east of old Buckskin. A new town was laid out on this rail-

road and Herman Buskuhl opened a store and secured the postoffice and still continued the town of Buckskin. But Buckskin never has and perhaps never will enjoy such prosperity as it did in the palmy days of the Sasses.

#### THE OLD GRIST MILL.

There are but few men in Gibson county that have reached the half-century mile stone on the highway from the cradle to the grave but have memories lingering around the old grist mill of their boyhood days. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays were "custom days", toll one-sixth for corn, one-eighth for wheat. First come, first served.

Here all the gossip of the country was exchanged for its kind. Here knives were swapped, either by inspection or sight unseen. Horse swapping was also of common occurrence. On those "custom days" from early morn to dewy eve the crowd was coming and going, swapping and bantering. Did it happen to be a campaign year, politics was discussed by all except the miller, who was supposed to favor all sides and have nothing to say, and it was regarded as a breach of good breeding to attempt to draw him into discussion.

The milling was most often done by the boys of the family, ranging in age from ten to seventeen years. If any one should inquire about the size of any certain boy and was told that he was big enough to go to mill, they would consider the answer satisfactory. When the family meal barrel showed signs of exhaustion, a bag of corn would be selected the evening before some particular day, and at night after all the chores were done and the family was all indoors, a bed quilt would be spread out upon the floor and the corn poured thereon. Then the family would gather around and shell the corn upon the quilt, while the cobs would be thrown aside for use in the kitchen stove. Then the quilt would be gathered up, causing the corn to collect in the center, when it would be scooped into the bag and set aside until morning. Bright and early the next day it would be placed across the back of a horse, with a boy mounted astride, and he would strike out for the nearest grist mill. Sometimes he would have to go five or six miles. The sign "First come, first served", was strictly adhered to. Often he would be among the last to arrive and many times he would have to stay till dark for his grist, and then ride the lonely way home through woods and swamps in the darkness.

But all this was nothing to the day he had spent with the other mill boys, wrestling, jumping, playing ball and marbles, swapping knives and exchange-

ing gossip for gossip, which he knew would be called for and listened to by all when he got home. A good supper would be waiting for him when he arrived home at last, for of dinner he had none.

#### SCHOOL DISTURBED BY A PANTHER VISIT.

In the Major David Robb settlement near where the town of Hazelton now stands, they had built a school house not far from White river and school was being held there. One of the patrons of the school had started out hunting and gone by the school to see one of his boys at the time of noon recess. While there the hunter's dogs treed a young panther, not far from the school house. The children went out to see what the dogs were barking at, and the hunter, on coming up, saw it was a panther kitten about one-third grown. He shot it out of the tree and told his boy to drag it near the school house and when school was out in the evening to take it home and save the hide.

A short time after "books were taken up" the teacher and pupils were startled by the awful scream of the old mother panther, as she came bounding along the way the young one had been dragged. They had forethought enough to close the door and put the window bench in place and fasten it there. The furious animal rushed up to the carcass of her kitten and when she found it was dead she broke forth in terrible howls and screams of lamentation. Looking around for something on which to avenge its death, she made a rush for the school house, ran two or three times around it and then leaped on top of and commenced tearing across the roof from side to side as if hunting some place where she could get in to the imprisoned teacher and pupils. After a while she gave three or four most terrible screams; presently the answering screams of another panther were heard some distance off. It was but a short time until her mate came rushing up and the two went to the dead kitten and seemed to be examining it. They then gave several screams, one after another, and made a rush for the building, bounded on top of it and for the next half hour kept up a screaming such as the helpless scholars and frightened teacher had never heard before.

Major Robb had several men working for him at that time. They heard the fearful noise, and by the direction were sure it came from near the school house. Three men took their rifles and hurried to the rescue. Several dogs had followed the men and they set up a loud barking and rushed at the school house. A panther could easily kill the largest dog with one stroke of its terrible claws, but for some reason they are dreadfully afraid



of a dog and could be easily treed by a small feiste. The panthers jumped to the ground and ran up a large tree which stood near the school house and were soon shot to death by the hunters.

The teacher was a full-blooded Irishman, but a short time from Ireland. He had wandered out into the wilds of Indiana. Coming into that neighborhood and learning that Major Robb was from Ireland, he had been staying at his house for some time. Having the necessary qualifications he was employed to teach the school. After the panthers were killed he dismissed the school and went back to the Major's, but refused to teach any longer. He said he would not live in a country that was on the frontier of "hades" and was inhabited by such pesky, screaming, screeching varmints as this country possessed.—From Cockrum's Pioneer History of Indiana.

#### FLOOD WATERS.

Gen. George Rogers Clark, when making his memorable march from Kaskaskia to Vincennes in the month of February, 1779, encountered the high waters of the Wabash river, and in his account of the tortuous miles covered he relates of meeting the overflow from the rivers. Muddy roads and numerous pools were first discovered, and a drizzling rain warned them that these signs were a bare forerunner of the floods ahead. He describes the fortitude of the men later, when they were compelled to wade through the level expanses of water covering the level country, and the good spirits prevailing notwithstanding the hardship. A portion of his diary, published in English's "Conquest of the Northwest," and there quoted from Bowman's Journal, relates:

"10th. Crossed the river of the Petit fork upon trees that were felled for that purpose, the water being so high there was no fording it. Still raining and no tents—encamped near the river. Stormy weather.

"13th. Arrived early at the two Wabashes. Although a league assunder, they made but one. We set to making a canoe.

"15th. Ferried across the two Wabashes, it being then five miles in water to the opposite hills, where we encamped. Still raining."

Clark himself says in his journal that the weather was "wet, but fortunately not cold for the season, and a great part of the plains under water several inches deep. It was difficult and very fatiguing marching. \* \* \* I viewed this sheet of water for some time with distrust: but, accusing myself of doubting, I immediately set to work, without holding any consultation about it, or suffering anybody else to do so in my presence: ordered a pirogue

to be built immediately, and acted as though crossing the water would be only a piece of diversion. \* \* \*

"In the evening of the 14th, our vessel was finished, manned and sent to explore the drowned lands on the opposite side of the little Wabash, with private instructions what report to make, and, if possible, to find some spot of dry land. They found about half an acre and marked the trees from thence back to camp, and made a very favorable report. Fortunately the 15th happened to be a warm, moist day for the season, and the channel of the river where we lay about thirty yards wide. A scaffold was built on the opposite shore that was about three feet under water; our baggage ferried across, and put on it. Our horses swam across and received their loads at the scaffold, by which time the troops were brought across, and we began our march. Our vessel was loaded with those who were sickly, and we moved on cheerfully, every moment expecting to see dry land, which was not discovered until we came to the little dry spot mentioned.

"This being a smaller branch than the other, the troops immediately crossed, and marched on, in the water, as usual, to take possession of the (nearest) height they could discover. Our horses and baggage crossed as had been done at the former river, and proceeded on, following the marked trail of the troops. As tracks could not be seen in the water the trees were marked. \* \* \* We were now convinced that the whole of the low country on the Wabash was drowned, and that the enemy could easily get to us, if they discovered us, and wished to risk an action; if they did not, we made no doubt of crossing the river by some means or other."

The narrative continues to tell of the repeated hardships endured by the men who were forced to march through the flooded country. Camp grounds were difficult to find, for the country was uniformly low.

English's "Conquest of the Northwest" relates: "There was no cessation of the flood. If anything, it grew worse as the party advanced. It would be difficult for persons at this day to realize the generally wet and marshy condition of the flat lands, especially the bottom lands adjoining rivers, lakes and creeks, in Illinois and Indiana in early times. This was the general situation, which was much aggravated, of course, by seasons of great rains and floods. The country, from a variety of causes, has been gradually getting drier, as the author personally knows, for the last fifty or sixty years, and the same drying-out process has no doubt been going on as far back as the campaign of Clark against Vincennes. The author saw the bottoms of the Wabash when overflowed, in 1834 and 1835, and fully realizes the vastness of the country covered with water. He made a horseback journey almost en-

tirely across Indiana and Illinois, from east to west and return, in those years, and can not but compare the present dryness of the whole country with its extremely wet state at that period. Indeed it may become a serious matter if the streams and the water supply continue to diminish at the same rate for another half century.

"This wet condition was noticed by all travelers in early times, and especially in the region of the Wabash and its tributaries. Thomas's 'Travels in the West,' in 1816, says: 'There is one inconvenience attending this country, exclusive of the overflowing of the Wabash. All its tributary streams, after a heavy shower of rain, rise above the banks, and overflow the lowlands adjoining, which on all is of considerable extent. In time of high water, it is one of the most difficult countries to travel through I ever saw. I have known it for more than four weeks at one time that no person could get away from Union Prairie without swimming his horse, or going in a boat.'"

Clark and his heroic little band continued their march toward Vincennes, at times wading through water to their waists and even to their shoulders. High land would be reached, and hopes of better country would arise, only to be dispelled by the sight of limitless expanse of watered lands on the other side. Clark, upon reaching the Embarrass river, discovered the whole country between that and the Big Wabash river toward Vincennes overflowed, and impassable by straight course. The Embarrass and Wabash rivers had overflowed to such an extent that they were united across the land intervening. Through this mire and muddy water, Clark and his men forged their way.

#### OTHER FLOOD FIGURES.

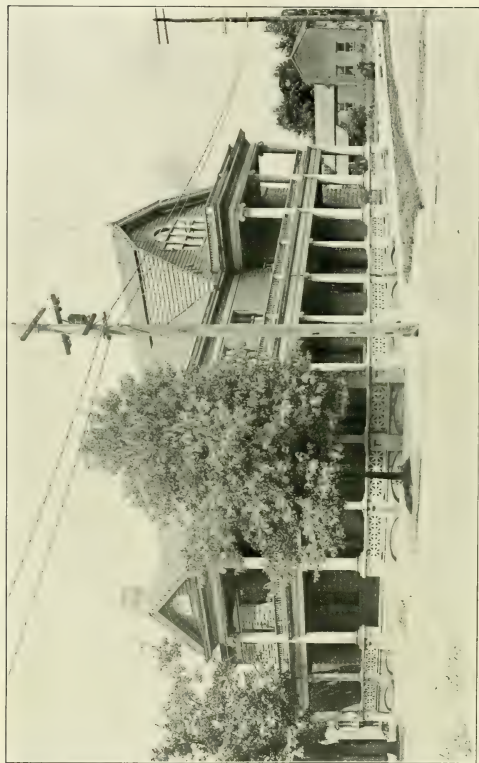
Concerning the action of the floods in the past years there is little to say, only that the water at certain stages does certain things. At the eighteen-foot level the water overflows the banks and spreads into the surrounding country, driving the people from the lowlands to the higher points of ground. At the twenty-two foot level no section of the river country is inhabitable except the highest points. The spring of 1913 was an exception, for the water at this time rose to the point of 31.1 feet on the gauge at Mt. Carmel, Illinois. There has been no period since the year 1875, when records were first tabulated, when the water reached such a height. Genuine disaster followed this phenomenon; hundreds of people were made homeless, and thousands of dollars worth of property in Gibson county was destroyed.

It is interesting to give in this connection the various heights of the

Wabash river at the Mt. Carmel station since 1875, these records being those of over twenty feet, the genuine danger point. Sixteen feet is the official danger point, but at this stage little loss is suffered owing to the precautions taken by the people.

August, 1875	28.0	January 18, 1907	22.8
June 18, 1889	21.4	January 28, 1907	24.5
January 9, 1890	22.6	February 1, 1907	21.1
January 15, 1890	25.1	March 17, 1907	20.4
February 28, 1890	20.3	March 21, 1907	22.9
March 2, 1890	22.2	February 17, 1908	20.1
March 6, 1890	23.4	February 24, 1908	23.2
February 28, 1891	21.9	March 8, 1908	20.1
March 2, 1891	22.0	March 15, 1908	23.5
April 2, 1891	20.8	May 8, 1908	20.5
April 6, 1891	21.8	May 13, 1908	20.5
April 13, 1892	21.5	January 24, 1910	20.3
February 18, 1893	21.2	January 27, 1910	21.0
February 23, 1893	21.7	March 9, 1910	21.9
April 30, 1893	22.6	March 5, 1912	20.4
May 1, 1893	22.9	March 6, 1912	20.8
May 8, 1893	24.5	March 7, 1912	21.0
March 7, 1897	20.5	March 8, 1912	20.4
March 13, 1897	26.4	March 24, 1912	20.5
January 31, 1898	21.8	March 25, 1912	21.1
February 3, 1898	26.6	March 26, 1912	21.6
March 31, 1898	27.0	March 27, 1912	21.1
March 8, 1903	26.6	March 28, 1912	22.4
March 12, 1903	22.3	March 29, 1912	22.6
March 26, 1904	20.7	March 30, 1912	22.7
April 1, 1904	27.00	March 31, 1912	22.6
April 2, 1904	27.01	April 1, 1912	22.5
April 3, 1904	20.8	April 2, 1912	22.3
April 8, 1906	20.8	January 30, 1913	24.3
April 8, 1906	23.6	March 30, 1913	31.1
January 9, 1907	21.6		





ELKS' HOME, PRINCETON.

## CHAPTER XXII.

### CITY OF PRINCETON.

Princeton is situated on an elevated ridge, ninety feet above low-water mark in the Wabash river; is one hundred and nineteen feet above the city of Evansville, and four hundred and eighty feet above the ocean's level. Topographically, the city is handsome. The land is for the most part level and well adapted to building sites, without many excavations. There are some portions of the place rather uneven, but in no true sense hilly. The drainage is excellent. It is now an up-to-date city, with a beautiful public square, many fine modern business blocks, a good system of electric lights and a good water-works plant. It has been an incorporated place since 1818, and according to the census returns of the United States in 1910 there were six thousand four hundred and forty-eight inhabitants. The last decade has seen a rapid growth here, owing to various conditions, but chiefly a true spirit of enterprise that has been fostered by a younger, more active, progressive element among its worthy citizens. Its schools and churches bespeak intelligence and correct manner of living. The reader is referred to the chapters on Education and Churches for these elements, both of which have been characteristic of Princeton from early days to these opening years of the twentieth century.

Princeton is not known for its manufacturing industries in recent years, but it exists more especially by reason of the rich agricultural country surrounding it; by its railroad interests; its railroad shops; it being the county seat; its solid banking institutions and retired men and women who have, many of them, resided here all their lives, at least within Gibson county. The coal, gas and oil industries have of more recent years been of much financial value to the city.

The reader's attention is now called to some of the interesting features of Princeton in former days, for, remember, Princeton is one hundred years old, and this year (1914) is celebrating her centennial anniversary in a befitting manner.

## BEFORE THE LAYING OUT OF PRINCETON.

Long before the plat of Princeton was thought of, Pioneer James McClure deeded thirty acres of land to parties, who finally donated ten acres including the present public square. This tract was given to be used as a "gathering place" for the public, but after years went by, and Princeton was the seat of justice, it became the public square. All this was done while this was a part of Knox county, territory of Indiana. The county seat of Knox county was at Vincennes. William M. McClure, now a resident of Princeton, is a grandson of the James McClure who is above mentioned as owning these lands in the present Princeton plat.

## NAMING OF THE TOWN.

At the session of court held February 16, 1813, at the house of Henry Hopkins, the following action was recorded, the name of the seat of justice having been hit upon by drawing of lots among the commissioners, Captain Prince winning:

"The court took into consideration the propriety of establishing some suitable name for the seat of justice for Gibson county; whereupon ordered that the seat of justice for Gibson county be hereafter known and designated by the name and style of Princeton

"The court then went into the establishment of a plan for the town of Princeton.

"Whereupon the following plan was adopted, viz: The public square and seat of the public buildings is to be laid off in the most suitable manner so as to include as near central as convenient, a certain stake to be set up by the judges of the court; the said public square is to be laid off eighteen poles square, making two acres and four poles; the town, both in- and out-lots, to be laid off from the public square in such a manner as to leave each street in said town sixty feet wide, and the in-lots to be laid in squares of eighteen poles each way; each square to be divided into four equal squares, so as to make each in-lot nine rods square containing one-half acre and one square rod each. The out-lots to be laid off in such manner as may be thought most suitable by the agent when the same comes to be surveyed.

"There shall be four streets laid out, two on each side of the range of lots on which the public square lies, extending from the north to the south side of the town plat, the said lots to be sold on the following terms, viz:



One-third of the purchase money to be paid within six months from the day of sale, the balance in twelve months from the day of sale, the same to commence on the 4th Monday of March next and continue three days, viz: from ten o'clock in the forenoon until three o'clock in the afternoon of each day."

## FIRST EVENTS.

Capt. Thomas Chapman erected the first house around the square after the town was laid out. Mr. Chapman happened here on a prospecting tour in the spring of 1814 and attended the sale of lots. Being pleased with the outlook, he purchased the half acre lot on the corner south of the southeast corner of the public square and immediately set to work to build a two-story hewed-log house, thirty-six by twenty feet in size. This building was completed and Mr. Chapman returned to Kentucky and brought on his family, arriving November 14, 1814, having occupied thirteen days in making the trip. He moved into his house, established a hotel, boarding a portion of the hands that worked on the first court house. He named his house the "Traveler's Inn," and continued in it till March, 1815, when he sold to James Russell, who was one of the first licensed tavern-keepers in Princeton.

The first storehouse was made of logs, two stories in height, and was situated on the corner west of the southwest corner of the square. It was erected by Willis C. Osborn, who brought a small stock of general merchandise here from Vincennes in the latter part of 1814 and was the first merchant of the place. He was associate judge from October, 1814, till after the state was admitted in 1816. There had been some goods sold prior to this by a Frenchman who kept a small assortment in the "Long Ornery." He was not here over three weeks and did not really deserve the name of merchant. The "Long Ornery" consisted of a half dozen small cabins built very closely together and stood on the tan-yard branch near where later stood the Catholic church. The second store and third building erected around the public square was situated on the corner west of the northwest corner of the square. It was occupied by Jones & Moffitt, general merchants. The next business house was built by James W. Jones and Robert Stockwell and stood on the corner south of the southwest part of the square. These buildings were all built in 1814. Robert Stockwell was for many years the leading merchant of Princeton. He was a native of Pennsylvania. In the winter of 1815 he purchased a general stock at Pittsburg, loaded it on flat-boats and floated down the Ohio river to where Evansville now stands.

Here he loaded his goods on wagons, came to Princeton and, having formed a partnership with Mr. Jones, opened a store in March of that year. After a few years Jones withdrew from the firm and Stockwell continued alone until 1846, when Samuel Archer became his partner. A few years later he moved to Lafayette, Indiana, where he died, aged ninety years. He was an active, enterprising citizen and during his long and very successful business career at Princeton he accumulated a large fortune.

The postoffice was early established and John J. Neely, a prominent man in the county's early history, was the first postmaster. It then cost twenty-five cents a letter to get it from the postoffice. The fourth business house was erected by John Arbuthnot in April, 1815. It was on the corner of Hart and Emerson streets, one block north of the public square. Mr. Arbuthnot was a saddler and established the harness and saddlery business, which he followed a number of years. He was postmaster twenty years and died in 1865, aged eighty-two years. The next business house was constructed of brick on the corner north of the northeast corner of the square. It was built by George W. Chapman in 1815-16 and, with the exception of the first court house, it was Princeton's first brick building. Chapman was a gun and silversmith, and followed his trade here about ten years, then removed to Missouri. This building was undermined and caved in about the first of the eighties. Mr. Zimmerman, from the East, erected a one-story brick house, containing three rooms, in which he kept a general store in one room. In another room Chauncey Pierce, a Yankee, manufactured combs, buttons, etc., and the third room was occupied by a saloon. Samuel Shannon built a frame store room and dwelling near the center of the east side of the square. Mr. Shannon engaged in general merchandising, pork packing, etc. He was also an extensive shipper, loaded great cargoes of pork and grain on the flat-boats of the Patoka river, and floating them down to the New Orleans markets, where he realized a good profit. In 1819 he erected and operated a tannery, where the Air Line railroad depot later stood. In 1833 he sold to Alfred A. Poland and moved to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He later made his home in Princeton and died here many years ago. The first licensed taverns were kept by James Russell in the Chapman building and by Basil Brown on the corner where later lived Dr. Kidd. Brown's Hotel was a large log house built V-shaped, two stories high, with a large hall and dining room attached. It was in its time a celebrated resort and the entertainment given at this favorite hostelry was highly complimented by the traveling public. This house burned about 1830.

The next store was that of John Brownlee & Son, who began business in 1815-16. They also controlled a large trade. After the death of George Brownlee, the business was continued by his son, John Brownlee, until he died, April 17, 1855. His stand was in the center of the south side of the public square, in a low brick building. John Brownlee was a very successful merchant and made much money. He erected, in 1817 or 1818, the Lagow House. In those early days the merchants dealt in peltry, furs, pork, grain and any commodity that was merchantable, handling but little money in their business. Their goods were usually purchased in Pittsburgh or Philadelphia. The trip was frequently made on horseback, carrying their money in their saddle-bags. Robert Milburn, Mr. Smith and Augustus B. Sturges each had a hatter's shop in Princeton in 1816 and followed this business several years. The first blacksmith shop was started by Perkins Lyons and it stood opposite the old Donald House. Richard Iliff started a pottery in 1816. In 1816 there were seven hotels, or taverns as then called, in Princeton.

In 1817 Samuel Boicourt, a cabinet and chair-maker, came in and he also made spinning wheels for the old settlers of Gibson county. He was also a local Methodist preacher, justice of the peace, merchant and an intelligent, enterprising character. A distillery was erected in 1817 by Sanford Grissim, which stood at the foot of Hall hill. It was a small concern and only in operation about two years. On the hill west of the distillery, one Elliott had a small powder mill for the manufacture of gunpowder. In 1819 six more taverns were added to the business interests of Princeton. With the exception of Charles Harrington's place, these taverns, as then called, were nothing more than we now term saloons, although their license allowed them to entertain travelers. Harrington's house stood on the Devin corner, east of the southeast corner of the square. It was a large, two-story frame building erected in 1818. A deer painted on a circular sign hung in front of the door. This and Brown's Hotel were the leading public houses for a number of years and both did an excellent business. It was about this time, or a little later, that the Vincennes and Evansville stage line was established and Princeton became the "half-way stand," and here the coaches met every day at noon and the passengers took dinner; a fresh relay was had before starting out for the rest of the journey. In busy seasons there were two stages a day. The New Harmony and Mt. Vernon line was started a few days later. The stages carried the mails and brought the news from the outside world.

James, Alexander Lyle and Thomas J. Evans, brothers of Gen. Robert M. Evans, came to Gibson county in 1810 and were among the early business

factors of Princeton. Alexander L. carried on the cooperage business here for several years; moved to Evansville and died there in June, 1844. James Evans bought a farm lying southwest of the original town and his house stood on what is now Broadway, in the western part of the city, where he resided until his death, in 1832. In 1818 he established and operated a wool-carding machine, in a building on Main-Cross street, one block west of the square. The machine was propelled by tread-power and the wool was carded into rolls. In 1827 Abraham Lincoln (later President), residing with his parents in Spencer county, Indiana, came here on horseback with a sack of wool to Mr. Evans' factory and had it carded. John N. Lockwood, then a boy, carded the wool for him. Lockwood, in later years, was president of the National Bank of Mt. Vernon, Indiana. In 1824-25 William Jerauld and George Bucklin erected a frame cotton factory in the north part of town, in the neighborhood of where the first Catholic church stood. It was an important industry, employing several hands, and continued in operation five years, when it was burned and was never rebuilt. George N. Jerauld, son of pioneer Edward G., commenced general merchandising in the spring of 1832, and was continuously in trade on the same lot until his death.

James Lesley had a distillery on his place a mile east of the court house, which was in operation from 1818 to 1823. He made large quantities of whisky and peach brandy. In 1825 the first steam grist- and saw-mill was erected, by Robert Milburn, Nathaniel Foster and James Finney. A year or two after it was erected Titus Jessup put in a wool-carding machine, having bought an interest. He continued this until 1852. In 1829 a distilling apparatus was attached by Robert Milburn and Samuel Hall, who, it is said, made an excellent grade of liquor. This old milling plant passed through numerous hands and finally became the property of Lewis Kolb. After his death the old mill was torn down and a residence was built on the lot. This is at present the residence of D. P. Bird. About 1828 Titus Jessup and James Howard built and operated a wool-carding and cotton-spinning factory one block west of the old mill. This was burned after about two years.

Princeton had no railroad until the construction of the Evansville & Terre Haute, in the summer of 1851. After the railroad era commenced the town took on new life and many new features in trade were added. With the passing of the years, the beginning and ending of the great Civil war period, and on to the present date, Princeton has had many dealers in numerous lines. It is not profitable to go far into the detail of these later features

of the city. The account of schools, churches and newspapers in this city are already included in other separate chapters on such topics.

#### POSTOFFICE HISTORY.

A postoffice was established at Princeton in 1816. It is now an office of the second class, and is housed within a beautiful modern federal building, centrally located. This postoffice building was completed in 1913 at an expense of forty-nine thousand five hundred dollars. Going out from this postoffice are seven rural delivery routes extending to the country districts. The amount of deposits in the postal savings department of this office, in October, 1913, was five thousand one hundred and thirty-eight dollars. The business of the office, outside of money order transactions, for the fiscal year ending July 1, 1913, was thirteen thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight dollars. At present there are twenty-one persons employed in handling the mails at Princeton, which included the postmaster, his deputy, the city carriers, clerks, etc. There are now many mail trains per day in and out of the city, which give ample mail facilities.

The following is a complete list of Princeton postmasters since 1816, when the postoffice was established, as furnished by the first assistant postmaster-general at Washington, D. C.: John I. Neely, March 3, 1816; John Arbuthnot, February 24, 1830; Isaac Montgomery, July 23, 1841; John Arbuthnot, January 14, 1845; Anderson F. Ely, March 10, 1851; John Arbuthnot, April 12, 1853; Thomas J. Arbuthnot, November 10, 1857; Silas W. Boswell, March 14, 1860; Charles A. Slayback, May 8, 1861; Charles C. Hill, September 28, 1866; Drusilla Dorsey, March 12, 1867; Andrew J. Calkins, April 9, 1877; Erastus R. Pinney, January 24, 1884; William H. Evans, September 17, 1885; Oliver M. Tichenor, January 9, 1890; Ollin M. Kolb, October 6, 1893; James H. Warnock, March 31, 1897; Arthur P. Twineham, December 19, 1905; Henry Tichenor, April 13, 1910.

It should be added that for its "efficiency record" as a postoffice, the department at Washington selected Princeton as the first office in Indiana in which to try out the new postal savings bank system. Hence it became the first postal savings office in Indiana.

#### THE PRINCETON SANITARIUM.

The Princeton Sanitarium Company (incorporated), in 1906-07, erected one of the finest, best-equipped hospitals in all southern Indiana, at a cost of

over thirty thousand dollars. It is centrally located in the city of Princeton, and is built of hard brick, cement floors and steel girders throughout. The roof is of substantial tile. This hospital was opened to the public in February, 1907, and conducted for several years, but on account of the death of one of the proprietors and founders, Dr. Frank Blair, the institution was closed after a time. It was built and operated by Drs. Frank Blair, A. L. Ziliak and R. S. Anderson, all local physicians and surgeons of Princeton. The institution stands ready for use, having been well supplied with all the modern equipment and expensive up-to-date instruments, etc., for carrying on successful hospital work. The field here is very large, there being no other hospital within a wide radius, and is within a good city, surrounded by one of Indiana's best counties. It is sad to relate that one of the founders, Dr. Frank Blair, was taken ill and was the first one to die in the institution on which he had built up such high hopes. He was the son of Dr. W. W. Blair, who has practiced here since 1850.

#### DEVELOPMENT OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY MOVEMENT IN PRINCETON.

By Thomas R. Paxton.

The opening of a free public library is a most important event in the history of any town.

An act of the Indiana Legislature, approved February 16, 1852, entitled, "An act to establish public libraries," provides that "the inhabitants of any city, town, village or neighborhood in this state, or any part of them, whenever they have subscribed the sum of fifty dollars or upwards, towards the establishment of a public library, may assemble themselves for the purpose of holding an election for directors."

On August 9, 1881, thirty-six persons, all "inhabitants of the town of Princeton," met in the court room for the purpose of establishing a library under this law. These persons, and seventeen others not present at the meeting, had subscribed five hundred and thirty dollars. The directors elected were Adam J. Snoke, William P. Welborn, William G. Kidd, Clarence A. Buskirk, Samuel E. Munford, Samuel Warnock and Martin W. Fields. Officers elected: Adam J. Snoke, president, and Martin W. Fields, secretary.

The name adopted was the Princeton Library Association. A statement of the proceedings at this meeting signed by the secretary and sworn to before A. J. Wright, justice of the peace, was filed in the recorder's office August 11, 1881, and recorded in Miscellaneous Record, No. 1, page 200. This statement gives the names of those who attended the meeting. Upon the recording of this document, the Princeton Library Association became a body cor-

porate and politic with all the usual powers of such bodies. Efforts were made to collect the remnants of the township library established by William McClure, of New Harmony, by his will. Some books were donated, some purchased. The books so obtained were assembled in the large back room. This was the beginning. In this room meetings were held from time to time, at which papers were read and addresses given by prominent citizens.

Later the library was moved to a second-story room in the Lewis building on the southeast corner of the public square. Under a law approved March 8, 1883, the board of trustees of the town levied a tax for the purchase of books on condition that the library should be opened free to all the inhabitants of the town. Prior to this only stockholders of the association, or those who paid an annual fee, could take out books. After Princeton became a city the Legislature, in 1885, gave to the common council of the city the same power to levy a library tax the trustees of the town had. The city levied the tax and the library was accumulating a nice lot of books, and substantial progress had been made, when, on February 9, 1886, the Lewis block, then owned by William Jessup, was destroyed by fire, and with it all the books, furniture and records of the Princeton Library Association. And, sad to relate, there was no insurance on the books.

Nine days after the fire the board of directors met on call of the president to consider ways and means of re-establishing the library. It was a crisis in the history of that institution. Experience had shown that to place a library upon an enduring basis provision must be made for meeting the necessary expenses, such as light, heat, furniture, book cases and salaries of librarian and janitor. The money received from taxation could be spent only for books. After much consideration it was decided to ask for subscriptions sufficient to buy a lot and erect a two-story building, the first story to be rented and the second story to be used for library purposes.

And the way the people responded to this appeal for subscriptions is a bright page in the history of Princeton. There were over one hundred subscriptions, ranging from five hundred to five dollars, and amounting to about five thousand five hundred dollars. An excursion on the Ohio river was planned for July 22d. A committee of fourteen ladies provided good things to eat and drink and sold them to the hungry and thirsty on the boat. This excursion netted one hundred and fifty-four dollars and seventy-five cents.

On September 15th the property on the east side of the public square, owned and occupied for many years by J. V. Hill, was purchased of Leon-



ard Barrett for one thousand eight hundred dollars. A two-story brick building was erected thereon, which is still standing. On Thursday evening, March 17, 1887, a meeting was held in the large court room to celebrate the completion of the building and the reopening of the library. A large audience assembled and Hon. Clarence A. Buskirk delivered an address. It was a day of rejoicing and gladness.

In 1903 the library had outgrown this building. Besides, it was found that some other and better method of electing the directors of the association was desirable. As the stock had no pecuniary value, and never would yield dividends in money, the stockholders would not attend meetings to elect directors. At a meeting held March 24, 1903, the holders of one hundred and forty-one shares of stock were present and voted unanimously for a resolution authorizing and directing the directors of the association to tender the ownership, custody and control of the library of said association and to transfer and convey all property, both real and personal, of said association to a public library board appointed for the city of Princeton under an act for the establishment of public libraries, approved March 4, 1901.

Pursuant to this resolution, the tender was made and accepted by the common council. The members of the public library board were appointed by the judge of the circuit court, the common council and the school board. The public library board was organized July 20, 1903, and the officers of the Princeton Library Association by deed conveyed all its property, real and personal, to the public library board.

Andrew Carnegie offered to give fifteen thousand dollars for a new building, provided a suitable lot was obtained on which to erect the building, and that the common council should pass a resolution pledging the good faith of the city that not less than fifteen hundred dollars a year should be provided for the maintenance of the library. These, by the way, are the only conditions Mr. Carnegie makes in donating money for a library building. Mr. Carnegie's offer was accepted. The lot, one hundred and forty-eight and one-half feet square, on the corner of Hart and Water streets, was purchased for two thousand dollars, and the money to pay for it was contributed by citizens of Princeton. The selection of this lot seems to have given general satisfaction. It is centrally located, and large enough to provide for extension of the building in the future. The new building and equipment cost fifteen thousand one hundred and eighteen dollars and sixty-five cents and was completed and occupied in the spring of 1905. This is another glorious page in the history of Princeton.



Prof. Adam J. Snoke was president of the Library Association from its organization to October, 1890, when he moved to Seattle. In accepting his resignation, the board of directors adopted this resolution: "That in the resignation of Prof. Adam J. Snoke the Princeton Library Association has lost one of its warmest friends and staunchest supporters; because this library has grown in ten years from a handful of books and a few private stockholders to a public library of nearly three thousand volumes, with a library building and furniture valued at eight thousand dollars, and this magnificent success is more largely due to his untiring efforts in its behalf than to any other influence."

The next president was Samuel E. Munford, who was followed by Martin V. Witherspoon, whose term expired January 4, 1900.

The librarians in the order of their succession have been Flora Miller, Anna Wright, Mayme Thurman, Julia Duncan and Julia Mason.

The library now contains eleven thousand three hundred and twenty-two volumes. They are classified according to the Dewey system, which is in use in the congressional library and in most public libraries. Miss Mason has made a complete card catalogue of the books therein. A card catalogue is indispensable in a large library and invaluable. By its use the resources of the library on a given subject are quickly ascertained and found.

The librarian says that out-of-town visitors highly commend the excellence of the books in the library and the judgment and wisdom shown in their selection. Much of the credit for this is due to Dr. William P. Welborn, who was a director from the organization of the association until his death, and as a member of the committee on literature he gave much care and attention to the books to be purchased. The library contains a very full list upon the drama, American history, biography, travels, essays and criticisms.

The use of the library seems to be increasing. In February, a short month, two thousand seven books were taken out. The number of cards now in use by the patrons is one thousand nine hundred and sixty-nine.

Princeton may well be proud of its public library. It will be noted that for twenty years before Mr. Carnegie made his gift Princeton had by taxation and by gifts of its citizens maintained a library free to all its inhabitants. That is why it is called the "Princeton Public Library," and not a "Carnegie Library." Under the law of 1901, "the judge, common council or town board, and the board of school trustees, in making the appointments shall select persons of well-known probity, integrity, business ability and exper-

ience, and who are fitted for the character of the work they are to perform, and who shall not be less than twenty-five years of age at the time of appointment, and shall serve without compensation for services."

A public library, like any other business or enterprise, depends largely on the management. In his address Mr. Buskirk said: "The majority of our citizens all along have shown a sympathy with the library which has been of the greatest assistance to the enterprise, and that sympathy with its purposes will be needed in the future for it to accomplish the public good of which it is easily capable. Let us remember to help watch over and guard the enterprise."

The library seems now to be on a firm foundation and to be accomplishing purposes of a public library which were so well expressed by Lowell: "The riches of scholarship, the benignities of literature defy fortune and outlive calamity. They are beyond the reach of thief, or moth or rust. As they cannot be inherited, so they cannot be alienated. But they may be shared, they may be distributed; and it is the object and office of a public library to perform the beneficent functions."

#### EARLY INDUSTRIES OF PRINCETON.

Although Princeton of the present can boast of her coal mines, railroad shops, lumber mills, brick plants, and various other important industries, the old town of today has nothing to boast of in the way of a variety of industries as compared to the new town of a century ago. It will be of interest to briefly note some of these early industries and the various ways the few inhabitants of early times found employment, even if in this brief notice there may be a repetition of some industries mentioned elsewhere.

The first blacksmith shop in Princeton was located on what is now Main street, where the Kolb residence now stands. Perkin Lyons was the proprietor.

In 1816 Andrew Culbertson had a harness shop and Richard Hill a pottery in Princeton.

In 1817 Rev. Samuel Boicourt was giving the greater part, if not all, of his time to his cabinet shop, where he also made spinning wheels, a household necessity of early days. When he was not busy at something else, Boicourt was justice of the peace and dealt out justice in quantities to suit.

As early as 1816 there was a hatter industry in Princeton. It was conducted by Robert Milburn, Augustus Sturges and a Mr. Smith.

At the foot of Hall's hill there was a small distillery in 1817-18, operated by Sanford Grissim. A short distance west of the distillery was located Elliott's gunpowder mill. If the product of Grissim's mill was anything like that of the "moonshine" mills of the present time the deadly effect of the gunpowder manufactured by Elliott would be mild in comparison. Anyhow, it seems, that the demand for the product of Elliott's mill was small and his enterprise was abandoned after a short time.

A cooper shop was carried on for several years by Alexander Evans. James Evans built a wool carding mill on a lot one square west of the court house, on what is now Broadway, in 1818. It was operated by a horse treadmill. This was one of the big industries of that time, as people came from all the counties around with their wool to have it carded into rolls. Among those who came with sacks of wool was Abraham Lincoln, then a youth living at his home in Spencer county. This visit was in 1827, some thirty years before Lincoln began to attract public attention. As he did not get his wool carding done in time to make the long journey to his home that day, Lincoln remained over night in Princeton, staying at the home of Mr. Evans on west Broadway. At that time Robert Stockwell had a store on the corner where the public drug store now is, and had his name in gilt letters on a sign over the door. This, among other things, attracted the attention of the Spencer county youth, whose opportunities for seeing the sights in a town of the proportions of Princeton at that time had been limited. Years afterward, when Lincoln was President, he was visited by Robert Stockwell, then living in Lafayette. On being introduced Lincoln said, "O yes, I remember the name as the one I saw in Princeton on a gilt lettered sign on the occasion of my visit there. It was the first gilt lettered sign I had seen and it attracted my attention."

The cotton factory of William Jerauld and George Bucklin was built in 1824, near the corner of what is now Prince and Walnut streets. It was operated for about five years when it was destroyed by fire and was never rebuilt.

James Leslie had a distillery about one mile east of the court house, from 1818 to 1823, where he manufactured whiskey and a good article of peach brandy, as is stated by those who are competent to judge.

In 1826 Robert Milburn, Nathaniel Foster and James Finney erected the first steam grist- and saw-mill on the lot now the corner of Hart and Water streets. A year or two later Titus Jessup bought into the firm and added a wool-carding machine, which continued until 1852. A distilling

equipment had also been added in 1829 by Robert Milburn and Samuel Hall, so that this institution was prepared to meet the wants of the community, however varied they might be. In later years the various side lines mentioned were eliminated and the mill was devoted entirely to the furnishing of flour and meal to their customers and, this being the only steam mill in the country for miles around, it enjoyed a good patronage. Two water mills, one at Patoka, or Columbia as it was called then, and the other at Wheeling (Kirk's), had been supplying the needs of the people in the way of lumber and corn meal for some time prior to this and continued to do so until the later fifties. The mill at Patoka is still doing business at the old stand, having a modern equipment, using both steam and water power, but Kirk's mill went into decline as Patoka river became less dependable as a source of water power.

A wool carding and cotton spinning factory was built in 1828 by Titus Jessup and James Howard, on the ground where the west school building now stands. This building was destroyed by fire about 1830. It was afterward rebuilt by popular subscription, but for some reason was not used for the original purpose. Several years later a company composed of Robert Skinner, John J. Dimick, James Maxam, William Kurtz and some other citizens occupied the building as a furniture factory, and developed an extensive business in this line. Furniture of all kinds was manufactured here and shipped to dealers in all the towns in this part of the state, including Evansville. This was before Evansville, now one of the largest furniture manufacturing cities in the state, had a single factory of this kind. In 1860 Robert Skinner's interest in this company was purchased by other members of the firm and his connection with the business ceased, and the firm became known as the Dimick, Maxam & Co. One windy night, in the early part of 1861, one of the most spectacular fires that Princeton had ever witnessed was the burning of this old factory building. And that was the finish of that industry at that place.

In 1857 William Jessup bought the old Evans wool carding factory on Broadway, where, with new machinery and equipment, he manufactured all kinds of woolen goods, yarns, etc. This was a very important industry in Princeton for several years, but this building was destroyed by fire, August 16, 1883, and was not rebuilt. And this was the last of the woolen industry for Princeton.

Another of the early industries of Princeton that have passed away is the pork packing and shipping business. Joseph Devin and Alexander Devin,

two of Princeton's leading merchants, had large packing houses and did an extensive business for many years. The pork was loaded in flatboats and sent down the river to New Orleans.

#### THE GREAT FIRE OF 1893.

That a great fire would some time occur in the city of Princeton was often predicted before the disastrous day of July 12, 1893. Prevention and care had been urged, but it remained to the flames themselves to teach the needed lesson.

At two-thirty o'clock on the afternoon of the above mentioned date fire was first seen in the roof of the building occupied by the millinery store of Mrs. E. D. Walker. By the time the alarm was turned in the whole roof was ablaze, and the flames were threatening the row of frame buildings adjoining. The wind was from the southwest, which favored the rapid spread of the fire. A hand engine was brought into play, but the small stream helped little against the mass of flame. Dr. Kidd's brick corner caught next, and it was then realized by the people that the fire was beyond their control, and so every effort was turned to the keeping of the fire within the block. The Gibson house caught, then Mrs. Ohler's place, then the Smith & Lucas building, and within an hour every structure in the block west of the square was afire. The flames then leaped across State street and caught in the frame building of Agar brothers. It was not long before every building in this block was afire, and the destruction still spreading. Across Hart street the fire traveled, catching the Charles Brownlee building, and Mrs. Baker's frame adjoining, Mr. Shannon's residence, and Jerauld's warehouse. The Methodist Episcopal and Presbyterian churches in this block both burned to the ground. Henry Soller's house on North Main street caught fire from the flying cinders, also T. R. Paxton's barn.

Meanwhile a hurried call had been sent to Evansville for assistance, and at four o'clock a section of the Evansville fire department arrived via railroad, the train having made the run of thirty miles in twenty-seven minutes. The newcomers succeeded in checking the fire at the Air-line railroad tracks, but the damage had been done. Four blocks had been consumed, and a fourth of the business houses of the city.

To one standing on Dr. Kidd's corner, where the Kidd hotel now stands, there was nothing but remnants of blackened and crumbling brick walls and blasted shade trees as far as the eye could reach. From Dr. Kidd's house, in which was the Farmers Bank, Sam Kidd's brick office adjoining, all the row

of buildings facing on Broadway to the old wigwam building were burned. Crossing the street to the block between Hart and West streets, the fire made a clean sweep except the brick office of H. A. Yeager and L. C. Embree. The block contained the dry goods houses of W. D. Downey & Company, and Dimick, Lewis & Company; the groceries of W. C. Daly, C. E. Mossman and Awenius & Downey; the furniture and china stores of Smith & Lucas, and the hardware store of Mulford & Cox. Across State street the next block lying immediately north was a complete wreck. Snapp & Tichenor's carriage shop, Mrs. Turner's buildings, Agar brothers, Baber's hotel, Ward buildings and the Methodist church were all in ashes. At Emmerson street there was a break in the fire, and Dr. West's and Devin's residences were saved. In the block between Main and Hart, north of the court house, many structures were destroyed.

The estimated loss incurred in the fire was five hundred thousand dollars, with insurance covering only half the amount.

Another fire, causing a loss of ten thousand dollars, occurred in April, 1897, when dry goods stores, groceries and a meat market were consumed.

#### MUNICIPAL HISTORY OF THE CITY.

Princeton is a city of the fifth class—below ten thousand five hundred population. It was in March, 1818, when five trustees were elected, William Harrington, John Neely, David Hart, Samuel Bolcourt and John Brownlee. It run on then until 1884, when it was incorporated as a city, when the following officers were elected: Mayor, John W. Ewing; clerk, George A. Spitzer; treasurer, William L. Evans; city attorney, Thomas R. Paxton; councilmen, Henry Soller, W. L. Smith, Reuben Emmerson, W. E. Kendle, J. J. Hartin, H. L. Wallace. The assessor was William G. Wright; marshal, James W. Lewis; street commissioner, Fred Bahne.

The list of men who have served as mayors since the organization of the city follows: John W. Ewing, 1884-6; Levin W. Gudgel, 1886-8; James B. Gamble, 1888-1890; Henry Soller, 1890-2; James B. Gamble, 1892-4; Henry P. Chambers, 1894-8; Charles W. White, 1898-02; Arthur P. Twineham, 1902-1906; Robert A. Cushman, 1906-10; David A. Davison, 1910-14.

The present city officers of Princeton are: Dorris R. Head, mayor; Earl Miller, clerk; Milton Cushman, treasurer; T. J. Mullen, McDonald Watson, Daniel Davis, C. F. Rumer, Frank N. Harris and G. W. Strickland, councilmen.

The Princeton Water and Lighting Company was granted a franchise

on November 9, 1891, and is a private corporation. They supply 139 fire hydrants, charging city for same \$5,462.50 per year.

The Princeton Light and Power Company is a private corporation and was granted a franchise in 1893. They have 89 arc lights, 30 incandescents, and draw \$6,000 a year from the city.

One combination wagon and eight men constitute the fire department of Princeton.

There are three and one-quarter miles of paving in the city. Three years ago the two principal streets were paved by the city, all work before being at the expense of property owners.

#### BANKING IN PRINCETON.

The first banking institution in the county was at Princeton, and the concern was known as the Princeton Banking Company, organized in 1869, with \$35,000 capital stock. It was a private bank, and continued as such until 1872, when its name was changed to Gibson County National Bank, and as such was conducted until November, 1874, when it failed. The officers were Caleb Trippet, president, and R. M. J. Miller, cashier.

The People's National Bank, of Princeton, was organized August, 1874 by William P. Welborn, William L. Evans, Oscar M. Welborn, William W. Blair and James Montgomery, who were first directors. The original capital stock was \$50,000, which has been increased to \$100,000. It has a present surplus of \$60,000, with undivided profits of \$20,000. In October, 1913, there was on deposit in this bank \$450,000. The first officers in this well-known banking house were: William L. Evans, president; William L. Dorsey, cashier. At this date the officers are: Thomas R. Paxton, president; Oscar M. Welborn, vice-president; Stuart T. Fisher, cashier; Clarence M. Lawrence, assistant cashier; Alfred M. Johnson, assistant cashier.

It should be said that this bank was originally known as the People's Bank, organized April 3, 1873, under the banking laws of Indiana, with \$50,000 capital, with the same officers above named, but August 5, 1874, it became a national bank, receiving its charter for twenty years, and was extended another term to August, 1914. The present bank building was erected in 1892, at a cost of \$15,000, including fixtures, but it is carried on the books at \$10,000, though really worth more than that amount.

The American National Bank was organized in 1906, with a capital of \$100,000, same as it carries today. Its present surplus is \$5,000: present



amount on deposit, \$235,000. In 1910 this bank consolidated with the Citizens Bank, which had been running a number of years prior to that date. The first officers of the American National Bank were: Joseph McCarty, president; Joseph Carithers, vice-president; John W. Yochum, cashier; Harvey Milburn, assistant cashier. The officers in 1913 were: Joseph Carithers, president; James H. Warnock, vice-president; John W. Yochum, cashier; Harvey Milburn, assistant cashier. This institution does an extensive general banking business, under the national banking laws, and its officers and directors have the confidence of the entire community. Their bank building is valued at \$15,000, and is modern throughout.

In 1889 the Farmers' State Bank, No. 40, was organized, with W. D. Downey, Dr. S. H. Shoptaugh, Joseph Heston, Jasper N. Davidson, R. N. Parrett, Arthur P. Twineham, principal stockholders and directors. The capital stock of the organization was \$50,000, and the officers were W. D. Downey, president; R. N. Parrett, vice-president; Samuel Hargrove, cashier. July 1, 1909, this organization was changed to a national bank, under the name of the Farmers' National Bank, of Princeton, charter No. 9,463, and the capital stock was increased to \$100,000, the same as at present. The present surplus is \$19,994.80; amount of deposits, 1914, is \$340,086. The present officers are: Samuel Heston, president; Will Blair and Jasper N. Davidson, vice-presidents; Frank Harris, cashier; R. N. Chappel and Walter P. Anthony, assistant cashiers.

This banking concern owns its own building, which stands on the corner of Broadway and Hart streets. It was erected in 1893-94, at a cost of \$30,000. The first bank building burned in the big fire of 1893, the same being located in Kidd block. After the fire the bank moved to the rear of Wade's jewelry store, then located on the south side of the Square; this was all accomplished with but the loss of one day after the fire. They remained there until their present fine quarters were finished.

The Citizens Trust and Savings Bank, of Princeton, is the only institution of its kind in Gibson county. It was organized January 24, 1904, and its first officers were as follows: W. L. West, president; R. C. McGinnis, secretary and treasurer; Alexander Emmerson, assistant secretary and treasurer. The first capital stock was \$50,000, same as at present; the present surplus is \$8,200; present deposits, \$168,733.38. The building occupied by this bank was erected in 1904, and all the appointments are up-to-date and first-class. No other similar institution was ever chartered in Gibson county. Its present—1913—officers are: George W. Shopbell, president; Forman E. Knowles, vice-president; Andrew E. Lewis, secretary and treasurer.







OLD MILL AND DAM ON PATOKA RIVER, NEAR PATOKA.

## CHAPTER XXIII.

### PATOKA TOWNSHIP.

The life of the early pioneer, now that the softening caress of time has been placed there, has been set in scenes of romance and dramatic interest. The tales of privations, of battles, of sacrifices in the struggle to build a home, are becoming a bit of folklore, and have become traditional epics, to us the same as the Saga to the Norseman, the tales of Siegfried to the German, or even as our own Anglo-Saxon fathers. The American pioneer, wherever he traveled, met primal conditions, and with primitive implements he coped with them. The magnificent forest dwindled before his axe and was superseded by golden rows of grain. Heroic in combat, as he was gentle in his home, the settler is monumental. Simple, religious, family-loving and sturdy, the present generation thus holds him in memory and ennoble him.

Patoka township was organized at the first session of the common pleas court, held at the house of Judge William Harrington, on May 10, 1813, the house being located in the southwest quarter of section 11, township 2, range 11, a mile and a half southwest of the present court house. Since that time, however, the boundaries of the township have been repeatedly changed. It is now bounded on the north by White river and Washington townships, east by Center and Barton, south by Union, and west by Montgomery. The land is drained by the Patoka river and its tributaries in the north, Snake run and Pigeon creek in the southeast, and Central and Muddy creek in the south. Originally the surface of Patoka township was thickly covered with timber, but this has been nearly all cleared off and the land made into rich and productive farms. The surface is for the most part undulating, but in the north and east portions, and approaching the stream, the ground becomes very rugged and knobby.

Two miles north of Princeton is Bald hill, which rises to an elevation of one hundred and thirty feet above the town and two hundred and twenty feet above the Wabash river. Mound Builders are probably responsible for the rounded top, as there are other evidences of this prehistoric race in this part of the state. Considerable bottom land ranges through the western part

of the township, and Sand ridge passes through the southwestern part. This land is very valuable for agriculture.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENTS.

With the opening of the nineteenth century settlements began to be made in Gibson county. John Severns had settled near the south bank of the Patoka river, at Severns' bridge even before the opening of the century. He was undoubtedly the first man to live in Gibson county. In 1798 John Johnson, a native of Virginia, came to this county in 1802, by way of Kentucky, accompanied by his family. The old soldier, Capt. William Hargrove, was the next settler of any note. He was a native of North Carolina and emigrated to this section in the year 1803. He was afterward an officer in the battle of Tippecanoe. In 1805 James McClure and his brother-in-law, Isaac Montgomery, came to this county. The person of Gen. Robert M. Evans is one of the most prominent of early Gibson history. He was born in Virginia. He came to the county in 1811, and immediately afterward joined Harrison's army and participated in the campaign against the Indians, including the battles of Tippecanoe and the Thames. He afterward filled many important official positions in this county. His brothers, James, Alexander Lyle and Thomas Jefferson, moved here in 1810. James Wheeler, William Latham, William Harrington, Robert Archer, Capt. Henry Hopkins, Joseph Woods, Daniel Putnam, Rev. Alexander Devin, a Baptist minister, John Braselton, Stephen Strickland, John Clements, Eli Strain, Chauncey Pierce, John C. Fisher, William Barker were others among the early settlers, and many of them lived to distinction in the growing community.

Tecumseh's conspiracy created a great amount of excitement in the county during the time of his depredations. In the summer of 1810 the Indian forces were being organized at the Prophet's town, and the settlers were on edge, prepared to fight the hostiles at a moment's notice. Rude forts or stockades were constructed, three of them in Patoka township, Fort Branch, Fort Hopkins, and one at William Harrington's, on the old McCurdy place.

In November, 1811, Joshua Embree came from Kentucky. The Stormonts and other prominent families arrived in 1812. Mrs. Nancy Stormont, widow of David Stormont, who emigrated from Ireland, and settled in South Carolina before the Revolution, came to this county with her mother, Mrs.

Mary Boyd, and a large family. They located about two and one-half miles northwest of Princeton. James Kirkman came in 1813. Other leading families afterward came, and the township has seen a steady growth ever since.

The first schools were taught about 1810 in small log cabins. Adley Donald, David Buck, Maj. James Smith, Ira Bostwick and John Kell were a few of the earliest teachers.

The city of Princeton is in this township and forms the subject of a special chapter.

## CHAPTER XXIV.

### MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP.

This township was named for the Montgomery family, who were pioneers of the locality and one of the most prominent families of the early days. The real history of the township begins before the organization of the county, when the settlers were just beginning to lead their wagon trains through the trackless wilderness and to find homes. Montgomery township was settled early by these heroic travelers. This township is the largest in the county and one of the largest and best in the state of Indiana. It lies in the southwestern part of the county, bounded on the north by White river township and the Wabash river, east by Patoka township, south by Johnson and Posey counties, and west by Posey county and Wabash township.

The soil of Montgomery township is about two-thirds up-land and one-third low-land, the richer soil being made of calcareo-alluvial loam, of high productive power. There are four or five small lakes located in the northwestern part of the township, emptying into the Wabash river. The principal streams besides the Wabash, are Indian creek, Black river, Martin's branch, Obion creek and Maumee creek.

### EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The identity of the first white settler in this township is not known for certain. Thomas Montgomery, however, was one of the earliest arrivals here, coming from Kentucky, building a cabin near Black river, and lodging his family therein. In the same year, 1805, Jesse Kimball also came up from Kentucky in search of new fields for his merchandising trade. He later owned a water mill in this township. In 1806 Thomas Sharp, William and Luke Wiley came to within a short distance of Owensville. Mathias and Smith Mounts came about this time, then Jacob Warrick, John Benson, Thomas Waters, George and Thomas Sharp, Robert McGary, John Roberts, John Armstrong of North Carolina, Jesse Emerson, Andrew Gudgel, James Knowles, Elisha Marvel, Samuel Barr, Thomas Sharp, Joshua Nichols, William Leach and Thomas Stone.

These pioneers cultivated Indian corn in small patches, relying at first mostly on the game of the surrounding forest. The red man was hostile and they were compelled to be ever on guard. Old Red Banks, of Henderson, Kentucky, was the nearest location of a grist-mill where they could get their corn ground, and their supply of salt came from the saline wells in southern Illinois, to which place a trip was usually made once each year, and they paid two dollars and five cents per bushel for the salt. In 1811, when the Indian trouble appeared at its worst, a stockade was built on Thomas Montgomery's place south of Owensville, and here the families gathered for protection. After the battle of Tippecanoe the soldiers returned and took up their various pursuits. About 1812 other settlers began to pour into the township, among them being Charles Jones, Sr., James Fitzgerald, Roland B. Richards, Alfred Richards, Samuel Blythe, Absalom Boren, William Rutledge and the Simpsons. The first family of Maucks came in 1821, and Samuel Kirkpatrick in 1821 also.

Montgomery township milling was mostly done by horse mills. Jesse Kimball, James Montgomery, Thomas Johnson and Jacob Mowry were owners of some of these early mills. Distilling whiskey was another favorite occupation of the farmer. John Hunter was the first blacksmith; the earliest resident physician was Charles Fullerton, and soon after came Willis Smith. The first school was taught by Joseph Dunlap in 1808. John Wasson, Robert Frazier, Major James Smith, William McCollum and John Simpson were others of the first pedagogues.

#### OWENSVILLE.

The town of Owensville is situated on the Mt. Vernon branch of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad, and is eleven miles southwest of the city of Princeton. The town was originally laid out by Philip Brisco, of Kentucky, and he named it after Thomas Owens of that state. Willis Alsop kept the first store in this town, keeping general goods, including whiskey.

On October 4, 1881, the town was incorporated and the first board of trustees was composed of James Montgomery, Hiram Westfall and James A. Robinson. L. P. Hobgood was the clerk and J. F. Bird the treasurer.

Before it be forever lost from the records of the county, let it be stated here that the beginning and early development of Owensville was about as follows: For a few years prior to the platting of the town, Willis Alsop, who lived in a log house, kept for sale a small stock of goods, such as groceries, whiskey, dry goods, etc., and may well be known as the pioneer

merchant, though indeed a small business was transacted by him. John McFadden built a log store on Main street, a half block from the square to the north. There he put on sale a fairly good stock of general merchandise. He continued in trade ten years, then moved to Missouri, where he was called from his house and shot. The leading early business was transacted by John C. Warrick, son of Capt. Jacob C. Warrick. He began business as a merchant about 1820. He dealt on a large scale, buying much produce and shipped immense quantities of grain and other commodities. His store stood on the southeast corner of the public square. It was a one-story frame building. Warrick amassed a large fortune, as counted those days. He erected a large warehouse on the Wabash river, where his grain and pork was stored during the winter, and when navigation opened up in the spring-time they were loaded on great flat-boats (such as Lincoln used to work on) and floated down the great rivers to the sea. He was also the first post-master and held many large interests in Owensville. In 1838 he finished a steam saw-mill, to which was added a flouring-mill with three run of buhrs. He urged other business men to locate there and was a genuine hustler. At his death, in 1847, he was carrying on the largest business of any one man in Gibson county. He left no heirs.

Between 1845 and 1850 other merchants came in. At one date Owensville boasted of her woolen mills in which a large business was conducted.

Coming down to the morning of June 29, 1876, the whole solid front of store buildings on the east side of the square was swept away by fire, causing a loss of forty thousand dollars. The structures were all frame, save the one above named as being on the corner. Several fine brick buildings were later erected on lots where part of these buildings stood.

Thirteen hundred and fifty people now compose the town of Owensville, the third largest in the county. The town has had a rapid growth and ranks high among towns of similar size in this portion of the state. The officers at present are: Grant Teel, A. W. Thompson and F. A. Strehl, trustees; Charles N. Emerson, clerk; E. H. Summers, treasurer, and Sylvester Selby, marshal. A town hall was built in 1911 and cost three thousand four hundred and twenty-five dollars. There is at present about one thousand five hundred dollars in the city treasury.

Water is supplied the town by the Owensville Water, Light, Power and Heat Company. An ordinance was granted the National Company of South Bend on February 7, 1912, and on the 15th another ordinance was passed issuing bonds to the total of ten thousand dollars for the purpose of buying





GATHERING CANTELOUPES—SCENE IN MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP.



one hundred and ninety-seven shares of stock in this same company. The Owensville Light Company is a private concern, owned and operated by James A. Walker. This company was installed in 1905 by an Evansville corporation, then became the firm of Smith & Walker, and now is owned exclusively by Walker. A Metallic Batten Company has just been organized in Owensville and is capitalized at ten thousand dollars.

The business interests of 1913 are as follows: Drugs, H. L. Strickland; tailor, Fred Johnson; furniture, W. F. Short; jeweler, J. N. Hurst; blacksmith, F. M. Thompson; baker, N. O. Basford; insurance and real estate, Frank W. Boren; plumbing and heating, S. A. Parker; contractor, Rufus T. Murnahan; poultry, Strupe & Fravel; garage, John G. Embree; meat market, Kight & Boren; hardware, Marvel & Montgomery; meats, Schmittler & Murphy; department store, Abe Massey; livery, John Montgomery; Thompson Hardware Company; wagons, J. W. Ray; lumber, Shepler & Grimwood; restaurant, S. J. Knowles; barber, H. R. Kennett; department store, George R. Welborn; groceries, Wetter & Harris, Arthur Emerson; hotels, Owensville Hotel, L. P. Hobgood, Central Hotel, Mrs. Della Phillips; stock dealers, John Montgomery, Massey & Mauck. The physicians in Owensville are G. B. Beresford, J. N. Williams, K. S. Strickland, T. L. Lockhart, M. A. Montgomery, James R. Montgomery. J. D. Emerson. Otto Bixler, and Dr. Brumfield are the dentists. The town of Owensville has two papers, the *Owensville Star-Echo*, a weekly, and *The Messenger*, a religious paper.

The Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad through Owensville was built in 1879. The first train over this road was run in September, 1879, and was a combination passenger and freight, a passenger excursion, run free of charge to all Montgomery township residents who wished to go to Princeton. The line extends between Fort Branch and Mt. Vernon, and at present runs four trains a day.

Montgomery township is one of the finest in Indiana. There is very rich land for agriculture throughout, and the value is greatly enhanced by the long stretches of hard-packed rock roads, about thirty miles of macadam, which lead into Owensville.

The First National Bank of Owensville was organized on May 17, 1900, and chartered the same year. The first officers were: C. B. Smith, president; L. F. Weldon, vice-president; Alex. Emerson, cashier. The first and present capital stock is \$25,000. The surplus now is \$25,000 and the deposits \$120,000. The present officers are the same as the first, with the exception of cashier, now Charles N. Emerson. The bank building was erected in 1900, and cost \$4,000.

The Owensville Banking Company was organized on May 14, 1900, and chartered also in that year. The first officers were: R. P. McGinnis, president; Grant Teel, cashier. The present officers are: George T. Keneipp, president; John W. Emerson, vice-president; Grant Teel, cashier. The first and present capital stock is \$28,000; the surplus is \$26,500, and the deposits \$100,000. The bank building cost \$3,500 and was erected in 1889.

## CHAPTER XXV.

### JOHNSON TOWNSHIP.

This is one of the southern sub-divisions of Gibson county. Originally it took in much more territory than at present, for in 1899 the county commissioners created a new township from the southern part of Patoka and the northern portion of Johnson township, known as Union. As now constituted, Johnson township is four by twelve miles in extent, running the longest way from east to west. The southwestern portion of this township is drained by Big creek. McGarry's Flat is a strip of rich black land, superior for its agricultural value. The early forests are nearly all gone and where the great trees stood a century ago now may be seen well-tilled farms. At an early day its forests were known for their wild, yet charming scenes, that changed with the passing of the four seasons. Here was found the oak, poplar, maple, beech, ash, gum, walnut, sycamore, cottonwood, elm, honey locust, cyprus, catalpa and other trees. The pioneer well remembers the pawpaw bushes, some of which were almost a foot in diameter. In the springtime the knolls and hill-tops are plumed with bouquets, brilliant with red, white and purple promises of fruitage. In the autumn the valleys are odorous with the fragrance of ripening fruits. The only rocky outputs in Johnson township are those at or near Haubstadt where the rash coals and their companion strata lay. These are of no economic importance, as the great depth at which anything valuable can be found precludes mining.

### EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The first history of Johnson township dates back to 1804, nine years before the county of Gibson was organized. John Hamer and his family were indisputably the first pioneers of the township. They came from the mountains of Tennessee, and cleared a plot of land in the timber of section 30. Jesse Douglas and family, John Sides, of South Carolina, Samuel Spillman, William Mangrum, Cary Wilkinson, George Holbrook, Allen Ingram, Berry Jones, Andrew Douglas, Elisha Prettyman, Andrew Robinson were other first settlers.

In the spring of 1811 the people of the township became alarmed at the frequent outbreaks among the Indians, and accordingly a stockade of split logs was erected at the site of the present town of Fort Branch. The old fort has long since passed from view.

Probably the first schools were taught in this township in 1810 by William Woods. The teacher boarded around, of course, and his pay consisted of a small sum from each family represented by a child in the school. James Johnson and James Curry were later teachers. Stephen Strickland, the "Whiskey Baptist," was probably the first man to preach in the township. Other early settlers were Samuel Adams, James Blythe, Lewis Duncan, Prettyman Montgomery, Andrew D. Ralston and Joel Yeager, and many later were Germans, who came here to escape the monarchical oppression of the fatherland.

Among the early settlers of this township, as it was known before the formation of Union township, as above indicated, were the following: Jesse Douglas and family of section 20, township 3, in the autumn of 1806. He left many descendants, who still reside in the county, mostly in Montgomery township. During early days this was a prominent family in the south part of Gibson county.

John Sides and family, who came from South Carolina, came with the Douglas family, and their cabins were built only a few hundred yards apart. Sides was a noted hunter and trapper and very fond of the sports of the chase. He was an industrious, energetic man, and after years of toil accumulated a handsome fortune.

Hiram Sides was born in Gibson county in 1821, and became a well-to-do farmer and stock raiser.

Another settler of 1806 was Samuel Spillman from the mountains of Tennessee. He was by trade a tanner, and there had to earn his living under the ban of Southern aristocracy, which looked upon labor by white man as a disgrace. He sought out the wilds of this county and built him a rude cabin home near where Haubstadt now stands. Here he toiled many years and reared a family of seventeen children, all sons but four. After being here a few years he established a tannery, the first in this portion of the county. He built the first brick house in Johnson township.

Other early families were those of Mangrums, Wilkinsons, etc. Cary Wilkinson, wife and family of seven children came in from Kentucky in the autumn of 1808, settling about three miles southwest of Fort Branch. According to the best memory of Pioneer Wilkinson, sheep were first in-

troduced by some of the settlers in the spring of 1815, but great care had to be taken that they were not killed by wolves. It was several years before they could be successfully raised. Cotton was also raised by many of the farmers in this part of the county between 1815 and 1830. Flax was introduced with the coming of the first settlers, and the fibers of this product made valuable tow which was woven by the good housewife and her grown daughters into a rough kind of cloth and found its way into the clothing of the family. Any boy or girl was counted fortunate if they had two suits of tow garments in a single year. These garments were made a good deal like a bag, open at each end, and a drawing string about the neck. This was for their summer outfit. Thus clad, barefooted and with a cheap hat, the boy or girl of the pioneer day was ready for school or to go to "meeting," as church was then always called. One pair of shoes for each member of the household a year was considered a plenty to have. These generally came about Christmas time. After sheep became more plentiful, cloth was made of wool and cotton into what was styled linsey-woolsey (cotton chain and woolen filling). This was universally woven for many years and formed the chief clothing material for the settler and his family.

James Blythe came in 1812 from Giles county, Tennessee, locating on section 11, township 4, range 11, and after coming here married Olivia J. Mangrum.

Another pioneer character whose name must ever be handed down by each historian of Gibson county, for its true interest and unique qualities, was Stephen Mead, who came from York state to Gibson county in 1815, and married Mary, daughter of John Pritchett, a Revolutionary soldier, a native of Tennessee, and an early settler of Montgomery township, this county. This young couple located in what is now Gibson county, in Johnson township, where they reared a family of twelve sons and two daughters. By industry and frugality they managed to get on well in the affairs of this world, and later years made up for the trials and hardships of those early times. Then, it is related, they had no plates upon which to eat, so they made a long table of puncheon and on the top surface of these puncheon they dug out sixteen holes the shape of a bowl, and thus each member of the family had their own dish out of which to eat—a stationary wooden plate! At one of the Gibson county fairs this entire family was present and all were robust, well-cared-for persons and each rode a fine gray horse. John S., one of these twelve sons, was later county commissioner and had to do with the building of the present court house, a monument to him so long as it stands.

As has already been observed, Tennessee furnished many of the early settlers in Johnson township. Among others from that state was Joshua Duncan in 1821. He had, however, when a boy, moved with his parents to Kentucky and thence to Indiana. At Evansville he became acquainted with Sarah L. Logan and they were married in 1821 at old Stringtown, which hamlet is now embraced within the limits of the city of Evansville. Soon after their marriage Mr. Duncan and his young bride moved to Gibson county and settled in the dense forest about three miles southwest of Fort Branch and by toil and industry cleared a small patch of ground and by the aid of his neighbors raised a log cabin. It was made of round logs and with a mud-and-stick chimney. Mrs. Duncan says that during the first two years they lived on hominy, corn meal and game. That locality was then infested with wolves and bears and a few of the small animals of prey. Deer and wild turkey also abounded in great numbers, which furnished the tables of pioneers with good meat. The wife of Mr. Duncan was a native of North Carolina. They had born to them ten children. Mr. Duncan became a prosperous, rich farmer and for many years was a justice of the peace. A few years after coming here he built a two-story house which was the best in his section of the county. It had a shingled roof and was weather boarded with poplar siding. The floors were of white ash. He also had a large barn and Esquire Duncan's place was regarded as among the finest in Johnson township. He died in 1861. His widow survived him and later resided at Princeton with a daughter.

Lewis Duncan and family were also early settlers. He was a brother of the above and was a member of the Baptist church and occasionally preached at the settlers' houses. Mrs. Lyda Duncan, a widow, and her family moved here and located on a timber land tract about five miles west of Haubstadt in 1818. She was a noted midwife of that section and was frequently called to minister to the afflicted for miles around. She was an excellent horsewoman and on her trips generally rode a fleet and powerful stable horse and while on her missions of mercy to the sick, whether it be night or day, always carried with her a loaded pistol. Among the old residents of the township was Stephen Harris, who came with his parents from South Carolina in 1810, and settled in what is now Posey county, where Stephen married Polly Emerson and in 1824, with his young wife, settled on section 8, township 4, range 11, where Mrs. Harris died in 1869. They reared a large family of children.

Prettyman Montgomery, a descendant of one of the old and historic



families of this county, was born in this county in 1815. He became a well-to-do farmer and stockman. John N. Mangrum was born in 1827 and was in after years a county commissioner. Another of the respected families of this township were the Yeagers, whose ancestor, Joel Yeager, a native of Virginia, emigrated to Kentucky and there married and in 1826 came to Indiana, locating in Posey county, near Cynthiana, and died there. His son, Absalom, came to Gibson county in 1841 and located in the timber in Johnson township. He was the father of seven children and among them was Henry A. Yeager, an attorney in Princeton.

From 1838 to 1841 there was a large influx of emmigration from Germany, on account of the tyranny of the ruler of that country, and this township received her full share of this German element, among whom may be recalled such noble characters as Dr. V. H. Marchland; John Sipp, who became county treasurer; Larentz Ziliak and Dr. Peter Ottmann. Many of them were Roman Catholic in religious faith. Later, they established schools and churches at Haubstadt and St. James.

Since the creation of Union township, which took much of the original territory from Johnson, it leaves Johnson with only one town, Haubstadt.

#### HAUBSTADT.

This was formerly known as Haub's Station, an old stage stand on the state road from Evansville to Vincennes. It is ten miles south of Princeton. The town was laid out in the fall of 1855, by James H. Oliver, who had before bought the land. Henry Haub, after whom the town is named, kept the stage stand and a general store. August Gelser was another early merchant, also L. Ziliak. Casper Keasel was the first blacksmith.

The present town of Haubstadt numbers about six hundred people. The election for incorporation was held on July 29, 1913, and shortly afterward officers were chosen. They were: W. W. Sipp, George Stiefel and Jacob Pfeiffer, trustees; Matthew Halbig, secretary and treasurer, and Joseph Gruebel, marshal. The town is composed almost exclusively of Germans and is a very flourishing and growing community. Good schools, progressive business interests and a well ordered town government are elements which contribute to the upbuilding of the place.

The following compose the business interests of 1913: Ziliak & Schaefer Milling Company; George D. Seitz, lumber dealer; general stores, the Henry W. Luhring Company, A. M. Schultheis Company, Heldt & Riffert Company and Stunkel & Halbig; hardware, George S. Tribble; grain dealers,

Theodore A. Stunkel, Ballard & Busing; implements, F. D. Luhring; drugs, Peter J. Emmert; saloons, William Hughes, Jacob Shultheis; blacksmith and wagon shop, Schiff & Pfeiffer; hotel, Margaret Singer; barbers, Anslinger brothers; restaurants, O. E. Padellar, Albert J. Singer; millinery, Henry W. Luhring, Helton & Riffert. V. H. Marchand is the resident physician.

The Haubstadt Bank was organized in 1904, chartered on June 4, 1904, and started September 2d of the same year. The first officers were: Alois Ziliak, president; Henry W. Luhring, vice-president, and Thebes Ferthing, cashier. The present officers are: W. W. Sipp, president; George D. Seitz, vice-president; A. J. Lynn, cashier. The capital stock is \$25,000, surplus, \$10,000, and deposits, \$140,000. The bank building was erected in 1904, at a cost of \$6,500.

## CHAPTER XXVI.

### UNION TOWNSHIP.

Union is the last civil township to be formed in Gibson county. Until 1890 it was a part of Johnson and Patoka townships, but at the commissioners' meeting in May, 1890, the separation took place, and since then it has been a separate sub-division of the county. For a detailed description of the act forming this township, with its boundaries, the reader is referred to the chapter on County Government, in this volume.

Its history from the pioneer settlement to the year 1890 has been treated and fully covered in the township history of Johnson township, hence will not here be gone over, at any length. Suffice to say that it contains about fifty-one sections, with the town of Fort Branch about in its geographical center. It is surrounded by the townships of Johnson, Montgomery, Patoka, Center and Barton.

In 1900 Union township had a population of two thousand one hundred and forty-nine and in the census taken in 1910 it showed a population of two thousand five hundred and seven.

Its surface is somewhat broken, but contains the average number of excellent farms and prosperous agriculturists. The valleys are rich and very productive and the native timber is still found sufficient for all present needs.

The schools and churches in this portion of Gibson county have already been noted under separate chapter heads. The only town within the territory is Fort Branch, a place of more than ordinary early historic interest. This shows that the first settlement in this part of Gibson county was effected in what is now Union township, and its details have been narrated somewhat in the history of that township, which contained a portion of Union.

### FORT BRANCH.

Seven and a half miles south of Princeton is located the town of Fort Branch. The railroad was put through in 1852, and since that time the growth of the place has been steady. The town originally, when the railroad was built, was named LaGrange, in honor of Aaron LaGrange, who owned

the land. The postoffice was moved from Little York, which had been a mile north. As there was another town of that name in the state, the name was afterward changed to Fort Branch, after the fort built during the Indian troubles.

Among the early merchants were James Strain, T. M. Strain and Charles Harrington. The first school house was built in 1861.

Fort Branch was built in 1811 and was constructed within an enclosure or stockade, located across a small branch in order to obtain a water supply furnished by Pigeon creek, a little north of the present town, on an eminence, the highest point for miles around. The site of this old fort is now under cultivation.

The stockade was built of split logs, set upright in the ground, and the blockhouse was made of logs two stories in height. There were port-holes in both stories and this enabled the pioneers to shoot in any direction at the enemy. Two blockhouses, each thirty by forty feet in size, were situated on the line at opposite sides of the stockade. A few weeks after the fort was finished and ready for any emergency, a rumor got out that the Indians were going to attack the settlement. Residents of the neighborhood gathered their families and sought safety in the fort. The Indians failed to show up, and it is not on record that the fort was ever used as a defense against the intruders.

When Fort Branch was laid out it was partly in Patoka township. A half mile south of the village L. T. Mead and Littleton Lowe formed a partnership, erected a building and started a general store, the object being to start a town in opposition to Fort Branch, but the undertaking was a dismal failure. The first preaching in Fort Branch was done by Rev. T. M. Strain.

In 1913 Fort Branch had about one thousand two hundred inhabitants. The community was incorporated as a town in May, 1902. The present officers are: Trustees, Clarence Sides, Charles Scales and Henry Hickrod; the clerk and treasurer is Frank Homan, and the marshal is John Peck.

The business interests of 1913 are below listed: Restaurants, Henry Slinger, O. Ramsey; barbers, McKinney & English, Simmons & Brokaw; tin shop, W. I. Stone; general stores, George T. Ford, A. Rodeman, E. Richey; J. L. Bryant, J. V. Delong & Son; hardware and implements, J. M. McCarty, F. P. Lawton, W. L. Woods; restaurant, Henry Lowe; veterinary, V. B. Reynolds; jeweler, J. A. Carson; lumber, branch of the Greer-Wilkinson firm; foundries, Lintz Brothers; meat market, Peter Emge & Sons; job printer, J. F. Hoffman; furniture, W. L. Mellinger, S. T. Wheeler & Son;

grain, A. Waller, Fort Branch Milling Company; hotel, Joseph Bird; harness, L. W. Woods, J. M. McCarty; blacksmiths, Wright & Weeks, R. H. Bidlemann, J. J. Stone, Stephen Lockwood; bakery, L. Herr; drugs, C. B. Runcie, W. G. Gram; dray, Roy Wallace; poultry and eggs, Toops & Company. W. G. Hopkins, W. F. Morris, H. L. Bass and W. W. French are the physicians, and B. G. Cox, the dentist. The newspaper is the *Fort Branch Times*.

The water supply of Fort Branch is obtained from excellent artesian wells. Electric lights are furnished by the Electric Light Company of Fort Branch, an organization incorporated in September, 1913. A well-equipped mill is maintained by the Fort Branch Milling Company, and they have one of the first concrete wheat storage vats of this part of the state. A short distance from Fort Branch is the coal mine operated by the Fort Branch Coal Mining Company. The mine gives employment to about fifty men, and coal is shipped to various points of the country. The coal is bituminous. The fire department of the town is made up of volunteers.

#### BANKING INTERESTS.

The Farmers and Merchants National Bank of Fort Branch was started as a private banking concern in 1896, was incorporated as a state bank in 1900 and chartered as a national bank in 1908. The first officers were W. L. West, J. A. West and S. H. West, holding the respective offices of president, vice-president and cashier. The first capital was \$9,000. The present officers are: S. H. West, president; Gerhard Sollman, vice-president; Herman C. Graper, cashier. The bank now has a capital of \$25,000; surplus of \$10,000, and deposits in September, 1913, of \$160,000. It built its own banking building in 1900.

The First National Bank of Fort Branch was organized March 18, 1908, with the following as officers: W. G. Stiefel, president; Charles B. Runcie, vice-president; L. S. Bryant, cashier; Miss Nellie Clark, assistant cashier. The first capital was \$25,000; the same capital is carried today, and the present surplus is \$1,650, with deposits amounting to \$85,000. A good bank building was erected in 1909. The officers in 1914 were: W. G. Stiefel, president; Walter S. Hoffman, vice-president; L. S. Bryant, cashier; John Vickery, assistant cashier.

## CHAPTER XXVII.

### BARTON TOWNSHIP.

Barton township is located in the southeast corner of Gibson county. It is bounded on the north by Center and Columbia townships, east by Pike and Warrick counties, south by Warrick county, west by Johnson and Patoka townships. This township was organized in August, 1843, but afterward the boundary lines then fixed were changed. The township was formed by request of many of its later citizens who drew up a petition.

The land surface of this township is typical of the county, undulating and hilly in places and in others, low and rich. Smith's fork, Pigeon creek and their tributaries drain and water the soil. McCullough's pond is also located in the southwestern part.

### EARLY SETTLEMENT.

John Miller is accredited with being the first settler in Barton township. He came in the autumn of 1814 and located on section 8, township 3, range 9, builded himself a rude cabin of logs and housed his family there during the following winter. He was a native of Kentucky, and traveled here on foot and with a pack horse. Elisha Strickland came in the summer of 1815, and also Jacob Skelton. In 1818 came William McCleary. The first settler in the southeastern part of the township was John Kilpatrick, who came in 1821. William Barrett, Andrew McGregor, James Breedlove and Eli J. Oliver were other early residents.

Perhaps the first marriage of the township was that of John Skelton, Sr. They rode to the minister's home on horseback, the bride mounted on the pillion. Stephen Strickland, Jacob Bouty and John Kell were the earliest ministers here. Providence church, a log house, was the first house of worship. The first water-mill for grinding corn was erected by Jacob Bouty, on Smith's fork of Pigeon creek. Dr. George Austin was the first physician of the township.

Coal digging began in this township about 1833, on section 5, township

3, range 8. 1880 was the year that a destructive cyclone passed over the township, demolishing homes and killing animals

After the organization of this territory into Barton township the first election was held at the house of Blueford H. Griswell, September 30, 1843. Jacob Skelton was appointed first overseer of the poor.

The history of the early-day schools will be found in the chapter on Education. The churches are also mentioned in the Church chapter.

The first child born in this township was John Miller in 1815, he being the son of the first settler. It is believed that the first death was that of Seth Adkinson in 1817.

#### AN EARLY UNPUNISHED CRIME.

In the early days at a log-rolling an incident occurred which would now be called a great crime. An Indian came to where a party of settlers had assembled at a log-rolling, on which occasion it was always the custom for the host to supply a plentiful supply of liquors as well as good meals at meal time. Some of the crowd had become in a measure intoxicated, particularly a man named Wheeler, and when the Indian above mentioned had imbibed quite freely of the liquor he became boastful of his former exploits, relating a circumstance of how he went to the house of a white family when they were at dinner and compelled them to eat until they were gorged, after which he offered other indignities. This so enraged Wheeler that he attacked the Indian, striking him over the head with a handspike, crushing his skull and killing him instantly. As the victim was only an Indian but little attention was given to this cowardly crime by the settlers.

Barton township has two postoffices, each a hamlet, Somerville and Buckskin. The latter is in the southern part of the township and Somerville in the more northerly portion and on the railroad.

#### SOMERVILLE.

This was formerly known as Summittville and was laid out by J. E. Smith in 1853. The town site being located on an elevated piece of ground, Mr. Smith chose the name "Summittville." The first house there was erected by Van Nada and Baldwin and was used by them as a general store. The first postmaster was George Van Nada. In 1853 Jackson Taylor built a blacksmith shop, the first industry of the sort in that neighborhood. Other persons who have been connected with this village are C. T. Shanner & Son,

Robert Moore, S. G. Barrett, J. W. Skelton, John Walker, William Helm, J. S. McCoy, A. Woodruff and Thomas Moore.

In 1910 Somerville had a population of two hundred. It had several small stores and shops, etc., yet it has always served well the convenience of the farming community which makes up the general population of Barton township. Since the building of the railroad the markets seem nearer the farm than in early days when far removed from the outside world.



## CHAPTER XXVIII.

### COLUMBIA TOWNSHIP.

At the September term, 1825, the Gibson county board of justices created Columbia township, and the first election was held on the October following.

This township is bounded on the north by the Patoka river, on the east by Pike county, south by Barton township and west by Center. Coal and stone are found in various quantities throughout this township. The land is rich and productive and is drained by the Patoka river and its tributaries, including Keg and Bear creeks, Bucks, Hurricane, South fork of the Patoka and Turkey creeks.

#### EARLY SETTLEMENTS.

The early settlers of Columbia township subsisted largely on the game which was then plentiful in the surrounding forest. Bears were very numerous and many of them were killed.

John Farmer, a native of the Old Dominion, was one of the earliest settlers of the township. He was a farmer and had the distinction of introducing the first Durham cattle and Berkshire hogs into this locality. Philemon Dill, a Scotch-Irishman from Tennessee, came to this township in 1814, and his family is still prominent in Oakland City and vicinity. William Hopkins and family, John Wallace, James M. Steel, William J. Summers, William Nossett, James W. Cockrum, Samuel Baldwin, Jacob Skelton were others among the pioneers of this section.

#### OAKLAND CITY.

Situated at the crossing of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois and the Southern Railroads, the town of Oakland City has grown to be the second town in the county, in size, commercial standards and importance. The present population is two thousand three hundred and seventy, and it is an incorporated town, the town having been made such in 1885.

Jesse Houchins was one of the earliest known residents in this town, followed by many others whose families are yet identified with the interests

of Oakland. The first steam grist-mill was built in 1855 by a stock company, and cost eight thousand dollars. Jacob W. Hargrove and James W. Cockrum built the first store room. Cockrum and Warrick platted the town on January 15, 1856, and since then there have been many additions made. Solomon Harris had the first blacksmith shop, Franklin Rose the first wagon shop, these during the year 1857. The first person born in the present city limits was D. C. Barrett, in 1827. W. M. Cockrum and J. W. Hargrove opened the first harness shop, also a shoe shop. N. C. Crister had the first furniture and cabinet shop. The Oakland cemetery was laid out in 1855 by James W. Cockrum. The first resident physician of Oakland was Dr. William R. Leister. The *Independent* of 1871 was the first newspaper. The first school house was constructed in 1860, and J. M. Henderson was the first teacher. Among the early manufactures which flourished and up to 1885, were the Columbia Mills, the agle Mills, barrel and stave heading factory, tile and brick works.

AS SEEN IN 1913.

The present officers of Oakland City are: Councilmen, Fred Schrentrup, Rudolph P. Smith, Elwood Burkhardt; clerk-treasurer is Ed. Redman; and the marshal is Ellis Montgomery. The town owns a town hall, which was built in 1911 at a cost of \$3,550. There are twelve men and one chief in the fire department, which is maintained by actual fire runs. There is one combination wagon in the equipment. The city owns its own water company, which is named the Oakland City Water Company, supplying the town from an artificial lake. The company organized in 1903, and the plant is worth \$40,000. The Oakland City Electric Light and Power Company, incorporated, is valued at \$32,000. Light is supplied about five hundred patrons, and thirty-two street lights are kept. The city pays an annual sum of about two thousand dollars to the corporation.

The business interests of 1914 line up as follows: Saw mills, Downey, Coleman & Co., H. R. Crawford; flour mills, E. H. Baker, Butcher & McCord; attorneys, John M. Vandever, John Bilderback, Abraham Cole; doctors, R. S. Mason, G. C. Mason, J. W. McGowan, W. H. Ashby, W. H. Smith, W. L. Leister; dentists, J. E. Wood, J. W. McCord; drugs, R. M. Stormont, A. G. Troutman, O. B. Troutman, W. B. Osborne; groceries, A. Deutsch & Bros., G. W. Smith, R. P. Smith, E. O. Hedlin, T. F. Davis; variety stores, A. M. Fowler, O. L. Smith, P. H. Walker; department stores, S. V. Levi; dry goods, the When Company, O. A. Kelsey; clothing, Kell &

Galligan; hardware, Creek & Heldt Co., Kays & Beardsley Co., Butler Hardware Co., Charles J. Shurig; implement, A. H. McFarland; news stand, Roscoe Farmer; photographer, F. C. Benton; blacksmiths, Percy E. Slack, John Hamilton, Milburn Hubbard, John Randolph, Mont Campbell; livery, McCord & Co., P. H. Lamb & Son, George A. Vierling; garage, Oakland City Auto Co., Charles Reed, Mont Campbell; hotels, Redman Hotel, Cottage Hotel; lumber, Greer-Wilkinson branch; poultry, C. W. Jean Company, A. B. Stahl & Co.; restaurants, William Elwyn, William Martin, John Daily; confectionaries, Warrick Mason, Geise Brothers; veterinaries, Sylvester Hale; jeweler, M. O. Cockrum; wagon shops, R. N. Campbell; general stores, Massett & Murphy; meat markets, T. H. Lowrey, T. F. Davis. There is one paper, the *Semi-Weekly Journal*.

The First National Bank was organized in 1889, and reorganized in 1909. The first officers were J. J. Murphy, president; J. F. VanZandt, vice-president; W. L. West, cashier. The first capital was \$25,000. The present officers are: W. L. West, president; L. J. Deutsch, vice-president; Alvin Wilson, cashier. The capital is \$50,000, the surplus, \$6,000, and the deposits, \$375,500.

The Columbia State Bank was organized in 1903, with a capital of \$25,000. The first officers were John D. Kell, president; J. W. Skeavington, vice-president; C. A. Simon, cashier. The present capital is the same, also the officers, with the exception of cashier, who is now W. T. Creek. The surplus is \$9,000, and the deposits, \$160,000. The bank building was erected in 1903, and cost \$2,000.

While the Miscellaneous chapter speaks of the platting of this place, it is well here to refer to the fact that it was platted by James W. Cockrum and Warrick Hargrove, on part of the southwest and part of the southeast quarters of section 18, township 2, range 8. The streets and alleys are wide. This plat was filed of record January 15, 1856. It was originally known and recorded as Oakland on account of the beautiful grove of oaks which covered a portion of its site. But later it was changed to Oakland City, there being another Oakland postoffice in Indiana already.

Other chapters speak in detail of schools, churches and lodges, hence will not here be inserted, but suffice to say these are all well represented in this modern little city in the "Kingdom of Gibson."

## CHAPTER XXIX.

### CENTER TOWNSHIP.

Center township is bounded on the north by Washington township, east by Pike county and Columbia township, south by Barton and Patoka townships and west by Patoka township. The Patoka river and its tributaries, Lost, Keg and Mud creeks, drain the land. The heavy timber which originally covered the ground and furnished such excellent hunting grounds, is all cleared, and farms dot the country in places.

Perhaps the earliest settler of the township was one William Reavis, a North Carolinian by birth and of Scotch-Irish ancestry. Isam and Daniel Reavis came in 1818; David Johnson, Thomas Birchfield, Samuel Beasley and Thomas H. McKedy were other early settlers. The early history of this township coincides with the other and more important townships, in which its earlier history is included.

### EARLY SETTLERS.

In 1817 William Reavis married Catherine Hensley and soon after this event they made the long and tedious trip to this county on pack-horses, arriving in the summer of the same year. They settled near the present town of Francisco, about a mile southwest, in the timber, where they cleared a tract, erected the usual log cabin, and by industry made them a fine farm home. One of their children was Alexander, who became a soldier in the Union army in the Civil war, and died in Andersonville prison. Mr. Reavis died at the old homestead in 1855. His widow survived him about two years. They were both of the Regular Baptist faith.

Isam and Daniel Reavis, brothers of William, with their families, came in 1818 and made a settlement not far from their brother's place. They had both formerly resided in Kentucky. About 1827 Isam was killed while assisting in raising a log house, one of the logs falling upon him. The Reavis brothers, for a few years after coming here, occasionally had their milling done at the then distant Post Vincennes. Charles Reavis later removed to Illinois. They were expert hunters and killed many deer, wolves and other

animals. They all had large families and had numerous descendants, many of whom are still in this section.

David Johnson was among the early pioneers of this county, having settled in the southern part in November, 1810, and in the spring of 1817 he located on a tract in the timber, about two miles north of Francisco. He was from Tennessee and had lived in Kentucky before coming here.

Thomas Birchfield was among the old settlers of the county, a native of Kentucky. He came here with his family in 1821. He was a brother of Larkin Birchfield, who was an old-timer in the county. When Thomas Birchfield came in Indians were very numerous. He, however, got along with them in a peaceful manner. His first abode was in a small squatter's cabin. Meats for his table the first winter consisted of the deer, wild turkey and other games of the forest. He later bought out the improvements of Col. James W. Cockrum, where Francisco is now situated.

Samuel Beasley, a native of North Carolina, settled with his family a mile and a half south of Francisco in 1830. He had a large family. John S. Meade, though not an old resident here, is a son of one of the earliest settlers. His father was a native of New York and, when a single man, came to Gibson county in 1815. Here he married Mary Pritchett, a daughter of John Pritchett, an old Revolutionary soldier. The Pritchetts moved from Tennessee to Gibson county very early. They settled in Montgomery township a short distance from Owensville. Stephen Meade married, in 1820, and located in Johnson township. This couple had fourteen children, twelve sons and two daughters.

Dr. J. C. Patten, of Francisco, is a descendant of one of the early descendants of this county. His grandfather, James Patten, was a captain in the Revolutionary war. After the war ended he moved to Tennessee, and in 1804 settled on Green island, Kentucky, and later came to Gibson county, Indiana. He settled near Fort Branch, lived there until 1816 and died there. He raised a large family, among whom was Hugh Patten, who was for many years a leading physician in Princeton. Dr. Hugh Patten died, aged eighty years, in 1876. He was the father of Dr. James C. Patten, who was a resident of Francisco during the later years of his life.

#### FRANCISCO.

This was a town whose heyday was during the time of the Wabash & Erie canal. It was platted and laid out in January, 1851, by John Perkins. Originally it was on the east side and up to the banks of the canal, on section

19, township 2 south, range 9. Several business houses and two flouring mills were built by Perkins, and the town flourished until 1858. Mrs. Sweeney taught the first school here. The first church was built in 1855. Dr. J. M. Ireland was the first resident physician.

Those who remember Mr. Perkins say he was energetic man. He built two flouring-mills, a saw-mill and several houses. For a number of years he was a merchant and real estate dealer. Francisco was a very busy place in 1854 and 1858. Three large packing establishments, three large grain warehouses, a number of general stores and a few smaller places of business gave an impetus to the hamlet.

Among the pioneer merchants and business men, who labored earnestly for Francisco were Reuben Baldwin, William Moore, S. G. Barnett and Moore & Knowles.

Francisco was incorporated as a town in the year 1907 and has at present a population of six hundred. The trustees are George Schafer, R. C. Stormont and John H. McConnell; the clerk, Ralph Goldman; the treasurer, A. J. Peveler; the marshal, A. L. Wright. The business interests are as follows in 1913: Physician, D. H. Swan; general stores, A. J. Smith, O. T. Downey, A. J. Loveless, W. M. Stormont, Joseph Thompson; meat market, Horace Swartz; blacksmiths, William Gentry, George Schafer; barbers, Monroe Hubbard; livery, C. H. Alarden; hardware, Stanford Witherspoon, William Hasselbinck; drugs, L. B. Wallace; restaurants, Walter Downey, E. W. Dill, Shuh & Peveler operate a tile factory. The Wyoming Coal Company operate mine here, mining a good quality of bituminous coal, which is shipped to all parts of the country.

The Francisco State Bank was organized in 1908 and chartered in the same year. The first officers were: D. H. Swan, president; J. R. Morrow, vice-president; W. B. Critser, cashier. The first capital was \$25,000, and is the same at present. The officers of the institution now are: S. R. Davis, president; J. R. Morrow, vice-president, and J. W. Finch, cashier. The surplus is \$3,500, and the deposits, \$55,000. The bank building, which was erected in 1908, cost \$1,900.

#### EARLY DAYS OF FRANCISCO.

By Ella Garrison McCormick.

Situated seven miles directly east of the Gibson county seat lies the pretty and flourishing town of Francisco, with a population of some seven or eight hundred, and as I have known the little town for many years most inti-

mately it will perhaps be of some interest on this occasion (the centennial celebration) for readers of the *Clarion-News* to hear something of what the town was fifty years and more ago.

This is my remembrance of it in the early fifties. It was situated on the east side of the Wabash & Erie canal, then but a few years in operation. Running south from Hugh Murphy's blacksmith shop was a road that led to Evansville, and one led west to Princeton. While there were other winding country roads, these two were the only established roads into or out of Francisco. The Princeton road did indeed wind on east to Somerville and the same kind of road found its devious way to Oakland City, east of us. Francisco at that time was but a little hamlet of perhaps a dozen houses and I will place them as I now remember them.

At the southeast was a little log cabin in which lived a family by the name of Taylor; just northeast of this cabin was our home, a small frame house of four rooms; just across the street—the streets were laid out north of our house—lived a family named Cassel. A little north of Cassel's lived "Uncle" Hughey Murphy, the village blacksmith pioneer; west of Murphy's lived John Perkins and family; across from this, the other side of Main street as it was then and ever since known, were three residences, one occupied by James Perkins, one by Mike Redburn, the other by George Beasley. A little farther north was a very small log cabin, but I do not now remember by whom it was occupied; farther west, near the grist mill which stood on the banks of the canal, was where John Shanmer lived; south of the grist mill was a saw mill; south of the saw mill, near the canal bridge, was another log house, but I do not remember who lived in it. There was a little postoffice on Main street and to the best of my recollection it was kept by John Perkins. The mails were received and distributed once a week, every Saturday. Attached to the postoffice was a small store, also conducted by Mr. Perkins. The school house, a frame building probably sixteen by eighteen feet in size, was just south of our home. This building was also used as a church. Dr. J. M. Ireland had just located there to practice his profession and he made that place his home until less than one year ago, when he was called to his reward to answer for all the good deeds during a long and useful life that he had done for the people of Francisco.

As the years rolled on other houses were built. Stores were opened, pork and warehouses were established along the canal and the place became a good market for all kinds of produce. Among some of the earlier comers should be named Reuben Baldwin, who had a store on Main street; Joseph



Moore and others, who had stores along that thoroughfare. Stephen J. Lindsey had a big cooper shop, George Granger and Seth Fairchild established a blacksmith and wagon shop and a number of other enterprises started up.

At that time Francisco bade fair to become quite a place, but the canal was found to be too expensive to keep up and compete with railroads, then in operation and being established. It was making no money for its stockholders and gradually began to run down. When we consider that it took two days to make the trip by canal to Evansville from Francisco it is not to be wondered at that it was not a popular mode of transportation. I can just remember seeing the boats pulled along by two horses hitched tandem to a big cable fastened to the boat, the horses on the tow-path and the small boy riding one of them. Think of traveling that way now.

Among some of the families living near Francisco in the early fifties I can mention the following: Living west was Thomas Harbinson and family, Mrs. Margaret Wilson, the mother of Squire James Sprowl, of Princeton; James Hussey, Dustin Mills, the Lawrence family, while north of Francisco lived Thomas McKedy, James Aydelotte, Thomas Johnson, James McClelland, Vardiman Yeager, David Johnson and Fleming Farmer. To the east lived Jackson Malone, Calvin Drysdale, McGrady Downey and Thomas Burchfield, while south there lived Charles Cross, who was a Methodist minister for that circuit; Porter Carnahan, Hardy Beasley, William Davis and several families of the Reavis'. Southeast lived the McConnells, one of whom was "Aunt Nancy," or better known as Granny McConnell, who was in those days famed the county over as a doctor. There was no practicing physician anywhere in the county who had a larger practice or better success than had "Granny" McConnell. She was one of the first and greatest charity workers that Gibson county ever had. She refused no call from the suffering; the night was never too dark, the weather too bad, the roads—which, after all, were often only cattle paths through the woods—too muddy or rough for her to travel to help those who needed her aid. Her pay was small, very often nothing at all and in cases of obstetrics her charges were only two dollars and fifty cents, her aim and sole object in life seemingly to be to do good to her fellow beings.

There are a few incidents in my life in Francisco that stand out more vividly in memory's book. In November of 1857, when I was but a small child, a tornado started near the head of the old reservoir and, coming north-east through the heavy timber that covered nearly all the intervening country,



it struck our little home, completely demolishing it. My mother and grandmother were most seriously injured, but through some dispensation of Providence, though the bed I was lying upon was torn to fragments, I was not injured, but the recollections of that day—or rather morning—are indelibly stamped upon my memory. Several other buildings were wrecked, but no one was killed. The Methodist church near our house was wrecked, but none of the buildings were so completely demolished as was ours.

#### KILLING OF WORRELL.

When the Civil war came on and there was a call to arms, the patriotic zeal of the men and boys of Francisco was not excelled by any town of its size. No other town in the state sent more brave men to the war than did this little community and the country surrounding it, and many who answered that call never returned to their home. I remember the time when there was not a single able-bodied man in that place, except a very few whose sympathies were with the South and they were wise enough to keep a still tongue in their heads. Some very thrilling occurrences took place in the town while the war was in progress, one especially that was not only dramatic but full of tragedy to one of the participants.

It was during the exacting days when the country was thrilled by the report that Morgan's men were invading Indiana and sweeping all before them. A few months previous to this there had come to Francisco a stranger who seemed to be a very quiet, inoffensive kind of man, but one who told no one his business or where he came from. Some looked upon him as a Southern spy, interested in the Morgan movement, yet, try as they might, no one could find out anything about the stranger. During those perilous times it was the understanding among the soldiers that no Southern man could come into the North without giving a strict account of himself and live. While this stranger was in Francisco a number of the Gibson county soldier boys were home on furlough and with the Francisco boys came several of the far Southern state boys, who had joined them in Tennessee and decided to spend their furlough at home with them. It was on Saturday afternoon and, knowing of the presence of the soldiers, a great many had come into town until quite a crowd was upon the streets. Francisco had become quite a little village by that time and politics was all the talk. The fact that the strange man had been seen in company with several well-known Southern sympathizers was mentioned and, he coming upon the street about that time, one of the foreign soldiers deliberately shot and killed him there upon the street.

It created a terrible excitement and the soldiers who were implicated were hurried to Evansville and gotten out of the way. It looked like brutal murder, but the man would give no account of himself and those were days when it was not safe to be so reticent. The name the stranger gave was Worrell and he was buried in the Francisco cemetery. I remember how, as a child, I was afraid to go into the old cemetery for fear I would see "Worrell's Ghost." The man who shot him was a Tennessee soldier by the name of Wells.

I have spoken of the loyalty of the men and boys of Francisco and how every able-bodied man at one time was out in defense of his country, but it can be said that not all who stayed at home were loyal to the cause of the Union. In and around Francisco were a few men whose sympathies were all with the South and they were known as "Copperheads," or "Butternuts," and, while I suspect they were brave enough when they met in their secret conclaves, the gatherings of the "Knights of the Golden Circle," one thing is very sure even among the women of that town, it was not safe for them to boast of their disloyalty. Some of them had a little experience in that line and it taught them that while the men of Francisco could fight on the battle fields, it was also regrettably true—for their part—that the loyal women of Francisco could fight too, when treasonable words were uttered in their presence. Over the vale of years there arises between fifty years ago and the present the angel of charity and forgiveness has spread her wings and we now try to believe that these men believed they were right in what they did, but even then it is hard for many of us to entirely forget the acts of some of those days.

Incidentally, I want to say also that not all of the women by any means were loyal to the Union and, unwomanly as it may now seem, many were the hair pullings indulged in by the women of the town. Among the militant women of Francisco who fought as they prayed in those days—for the Union—I will mention Mrs. Susanna Skelton and Mrs. Julia Dill, both wives of soldiers then in the field; Mrs. Edna Bilderback, another soldier's wife; Mrs. Aurelia Shanner, an aged widow whose father and eleven uncles were in the Revolutionary war and who had two brothers and four brothers-in-law in the war of 1812, and who still hated with a holy hatred any man or woman who advocated the dissolution of that Union for which they had offered their lives. Some of the girls were disposed to favor the cause of the South, but they were few and generally wise enough to keep a still tongue. But of all those to whom my mind reverts there are none now alive.



FRANCISCO HIGH SCHOOL.



## GETTING THE NEWS.

During the war everyone was anxious to hear the news from the seat of war and, as Francisco had but one mail each week, it was arranged that each evening someone would go from that place to Princeton and get the mail out of the Francisco box and the home papers and the *Evansville Journal* and the *Cincinnati Gazette* or *Enquirer*. To meet the expenses incident to all this, clubs were formed and then at night the club would meet at some member's house and all would listen to the reports of the war. Many amusing things incident to those days could be related.

I have referred to the method of getting the daily news, but an additional fact might be mentioned. It was understood whenever the church bell rang outside the regular devotional hours there was some important news from the front and all gathered to hear it. Many who had husbands, sons, brothers or sweethearts went in fear and trembling and many indeed were justified in that dread, as it was not an uncommon thing to hear when the news was read that some brave home man or boy had laid down his life in defense of his country. Some who left their homes in the flush of vigorous manhood came home physical wrecks from starvation and exposure in Southern prisons. But it was the fate of war and in nearly every case the bereaved ones patriotically looked upon the taking of loved ones as but their tribute to their country in its danger and loyally bore their burden of grief in tearless silence.

A great many of the women who were left at home to make, as it were, an "Adamless Eden" could not read or write. My mother, Mrs. Mary A. Anderson, would write regularly for a number of the women who were unable to do their own letter-writing, and as she generally had to read to them the replies to the letters she was thus made the confidant of many amusing as well as serious matters. I remember one instance of a girl who could neither read or write and she would always want my mother to write a great many love expressions in her letter. This correspondence was kept up for some time and burning messages of love were passing between them all the time. Some of the home boys came home on furlough and what was my mother's astonishment when the girl for whom she had been writing such undying love to her soldier sweetheart came to her and said, "Aunt Mary, I am going to be married right away." Mother was astonished, as she knew the soldier with whom the girl had been corresponding was still in the field. "Yes," said

the girl, "Jim (with whom she had been corresponding) may get killed and Mack (naming a Francisco boy then at home on furlough) looked so purty in his sojer clothes that I jist could not refuse him." And sure enough, they were married before he returned to the army, thus proving, in her case at least, that absence did not "make the heart grow fonder."

Of all those who have made Francisco their home since 1855, Mrs. Lizzie Perkins Ireland is the only one who has had a continuous residence there. It has been her abiding place all these years. Francisco has a very warm place in my heart. It was my home for about twenty years of my life and a happy home it was to me.

## CHAPTER XXX.

### WHITE RIVER TOWNSHIP.

This township is in the northern portion of the county, and when first organized contained all that part of the county north of the Patoka river. The present boundaries of the township are: On the north by White river, on the east by Washington township, on the south by Patoka and Montgomery townships and on the west by the Wabash and White rivers. The land, although broken in places, is very suitable for agriculture, all varieties of grain being raised in full quantities. The Wabash, White and Patoka rivers both drain and water the land throughout. Heavy timber originally covered the township, but agriculture has compelled the clearing of nearly all of it.

The advantage of river operation caused several grist-mills and saw-mills to be built here in early times. The logs were floated to these mills from other parts of the township and county, and the lumber afterward loaded on flat boats and shipped down to Southern ports. Other mills were in the interior of the township. The water in these rivers was at times very sluggish, and consequently frequent malarial trouble occurred among the settlers. In 1813 and 1814 there was a pestilence known as the "black plague," which resulted disastrously for the people of this portion of the county. It was equal to the cholera in its fatality. Wild game was plentiful in this portion and bears, panthers, wolves, wild cats, elk, deer and wild turkey were all hunted by the frontiersmen. Fish in the streams was a source of much of the meat supply. Potter's clay was found and was a source of great profit in early times.

The first grist-mill constructed in White River township was of round logs and was built by Keen Fields. It was run by horse power and was provided with one set of buhrs. Each customer furnished his own power during those days and provided his own bolt. The first style of bolt was a box-shaped invention, with straight handle and wire bottom, and was termed a "sarch." The ground grist was placed in this sarch and was pushed by hand back and forth across the top of an open trough, a hollowed log, which held the flour after being sifted out.

The town of Smithfield, now Patoka, probably had the first church and cemetery. The "Forty-Gallon Baptists" held meetings here in log houses. John Severns, Sr., was one of the first settlers in this township, and was followed by such men as Gervas Hazelton, Keen Fields, Major David Robb, James Robb, Abraham Spain, B. K. Ashcraft, Joseph Milburn, John Milburn, David Milburn, Robert and William Milburn, Robert Mosely, Abraham Bruner, Patrick Payne, Charles Routt, the Gordons, John Adams, Joseph Adams, Samuel Adams, James Crow, Sr. and Jr., Andrew Cunningham, William Price, Eli Hawkins, Jonathan Gulick, John W. Grisam, Simon and Thomas Key, Thomas H. Martin, Armstead Bennett, William Hardy, Frederick Bruner, John Hyndman, William French, James Sproule, Robert and William Philips, Robert and Stephen Falls, C. and Joseph Hudspeth, John Robinson, James Favis, James Skidmore, Andrew Harvey, William Maxident, Stephen Lewis, Edmund Hogan.

Severns' ferry on the Patoka river was the first in the township. The second was on White river, where Hazelton is now located, and was called the Hazelton ferry. The first bridge in White River township was built in 1813 by Edward Hogan and Thomas Neely. It was a toll bridge, built of logs.

Azariah Ayres was the first blacksmith; John and Joseph Adams were the first merchants. Distilleries were scattered around on most of the farms. It was an universal custom among the settlers to manufacture apple and peach brandy.

#### PATOKA.

The town of Patoka is three miles north of Princeton and twenty-one miles south of Vincennes. It is located on sections 24 and 25, township 1 south, range 10 west, on the Evansville & Terre Haute Railroad and the Patoka river. Patoka is an Indian name, and means "log on the bottom," applying to the many logs that had settled in the mud at the bottom of the Patoka river. The town, which was platted and recorded as early as 1813, was first called Smithfield, then Columbia; and then by its present name. There is no doubt that it is the oldest town of the county, many having lived there before it was platted. For years it was a stage station between Evansville, "Stringtown" and Vincennes.

Thomas H. Martin is believed to have been the first hotel keeper and minister in the town.

In the early eighties the following was written of Patoka:

"Patoka has a population of eight hundred and has seen better days. Dis-



tilleries first made her prosperous, then crooked whisky sheared her golden locks, nipped her pristine vigor, made her prematurely gray and hurled her on the down grade of the stream of time from which she is not likely to soon recover; and also this disgraced and bankrupted several of her own citizens and made criminals of other residents of the county, only a few of whom were made to feel the power of the law which they had violated. Whisky has ever been one of the staples of this town; two saloons are here now and the time was when merchants and hotels all kept it on sale. A business man here today says that on looking over his grandfather's old bills of purchase **he** found the average about thus: One barrel of molasses, two barrels of whisky, showing a double demand for the 'necessary tangle-foot' over luxurious treacle. Patoka has three churches, Baptist, Presbyterian and Methodist. The school facilities are excellent, having the graded system.

"The manufacturing interests of Patoka are represented by two steam saw-mills, with a combined capacity of from three thousand five hundred to four thousand five hundred feet of lumber per day; one steam planing-mill, capacity from three thousand to four thousand feet per day; two flouring-mills, one steam and one water, with a combined capacity one hundred barrels per day, and three blacksmith shops and three large wagon and carriage repair shops. The steam flouring-mill has attachments for making the 'patent process' flour. The water mill has a combination of buhrs and rollers, being the 'gradual reduction process' of making flour and is said to be the best system yet discovered."

In a great many respects the Patoka of today is very much different from the Patoka as described in the publication from which the foregoing is quoted. A great many of the business industries noted have disappeared, some of them for the town's betterment, but there are still a goodly number of substantial business men in the town and there has been a great improvement in the character and conduct of its citizens since the days of its unsavory record.

The following was written for the centennial issue of the *Clarion-News*, in March, 1913, concerning this place:

"Patoka, the oldest town in Gibson county, was formerly called Smithville. The town was in existence a number of years prior to the organization of the county. In fact, when John Severns, the first white settler in Gibson county, settled, in 1789, on the south bank of the Patoka river, at a place now known as Severns' bridge, the town of Patoka sprang into being. Other settlers naturally followed the path made by Severns through the wilderness

and when he pitched tent they did likewise. Severns was the recognized leader and explorer. His business was not that of founding towns and villages. He left this work to others and at this particular time, 1789, one John Smith conceived the idea of inducing the handful of settlers to join him in establishing a permanent village to be called Smithville.

"However, in 1813, when the town of Smithville was platted, the name was changed to Columbia, in honor of the discoverer of America.

"The records concerning this remarkable town shed no light as to the causes which contributed to the desire to change the name of Smithville for that of Columbia, nor why at the last moment the name of Patoka was finally agreed upon as having more charm than either Smithville or Columbia. All we know is that the oldest inhabitant of the county cannot remember when Patoka was known by any other name than Patoka. And this same Patoka might have been the first if not the only county seat of Gibson county had not a 'black plague' swooped down upon it in 1813-14 and carried off many of its citizens. The epidemic appeared about the same time steps were taken to organize the county and when Patoka manifested a strong inclination to bid for county seat honors. However, the 'black plague' wrought such havoc as to completely preclude anything of this sort. Patoka was a long time recovering from her serious losses. Despite this hindrance, Patoka became an important and probably the principal stage line station between Vincennes and Evansville. This line carried many passengers in its day and Patoka gained much prestige and fame as the result of being the only relay station along the route. And in the days of early steamboating Patoka became a town of much note. Patoka river, though not now a navigable stream, was at an early day the scene of much traffic by boats of small tonnage, especially during high waters which made it possible for boats to run up as far as the town of Patoka. Two small boats were built on the river above Patoka, one for steam trade, the other for moving flats and barges. They operated several years. This river traffic, although quite limited, brought the town into renown among river men far and wide.

"The portion of the land near Patoka was divided by the general government into Militia Donations, locations and surveys. These surveys were made between the years 1794 and 1802. Buckingham, a surveyor in 1804, in his field notes running certain boundaries, states that the blazes and marks on the trees indicated that the last locations were made about two years previously. These donations were originally made to a company of one hundred and twenty-eight militiamen, of a hundred acres each to a man and were laid

off in lots of a hundred acres. These lands were given for services rendered in the Indian wars. The persons who received the warrants were allowed to either locate or dispose of the same.

"Patoka being the oldest town in the county, was, as a matter of course, first in everything pertaining to the needs and requirements of an advancing civilization, such as schools, churches, mills, etc. The first grist-mill was erected near Patoka by Keen Fields. The first school house in Gibson county was built in Patoka in 1815 and for several years was used as a house of worship. The first minister to preach there was Rev. Thomas Martin, of the Baptist faith, and it is claimed by one writer that he was the first in the county. The first two-story log house in this county was built in Patoka by James Robb. The first merchant was John Smith, in whose honor the town was first known as Smithville. Patoka was incorporated in the early nineties.

"It was David Robb, of Patoka, who organized a company of soldiers and participated in the famous battle of Tippecanoe. His volunteers comprised a number of Patoka merchants."

#### PRESENT PATOKA.

The town of Patoka, at present, has a population close to eight hundred. The town officers are as follows: Trustees, I. F. Alvis, G. B. Bingham, W. W. Witherspoon, C. C. Jones; treasurer, L. F. Riley, and clerk, C. W. Stermer.

The general stores are owned by J. W. Myrick, W. P. Casey, Preston Milburn, the Field brothers and J. T. Boerke; F. O. Milburn runs a drug store; Wilkerson & Martin have a dray line; Paul Kuhn & Company and A. Waller & Company deal in grain; John Duncan has a livery; L. F. Alvis operates a blacksmith shop; Colonel Lynn and Thomas Patterson are the barbers; the hotel is conducted by L. F. Alvis and is named the Alvis House; hardware and implements are sold by Stermer & Jones; harness is kept by C. Reneer; lumber by R. P. Lockhart; Henry Watson manages a mill. There are no resident attorneys in Patoka. The physicians are M. L. and S. I. Arthur. Earl Turpin and Fred Boerke keep restaurants and confectionaries combined; Whiting & Hollis deal in live stock.

The Patoka National Bank was organized in 1909 and chartered the same year. There were thirty-three charter members and the first officers were: Alex D. Milburn, president; David W. Hull, vice-president, and William F. Parrett, cashier. The present officers are: D. W. Hull, president; J. W. Adams, vice-president; W. F. Parrett, cashier, and Eldon E.

Field, assistant cashier. The capital stock is now the same as in the beginning, \$25,000; the surplus is \$7,000, and the deposits amount to \$90,000. The bank building was erected in 1908, at a total cost of \$3,088.

#### DEFUNCT VILLAGE OF PORT GIBSON.

This place was situated on section 3, township 2 south, range 10 west, on the south bank of the old canal. It was surveyed in the spring of 1852 for proprietors Elisha Embree and Samuel Shannon. It has long since been numbered among the defunct places of this county. J. R. Strickland, of Owensville, a local historian, has described its rise and fall in the following language:

"The history of the rise and fall of Port Gibson is closely interwoven with that of the Wabash and Erie canal, a water-way project born in 1827. In that year the United States government granted to the state of Indiana every alternate section of land along a proposed canal route from Fort Wayne to Evansville, through Lafayette and Terre Haute. In 1830-32 the Indiana Legislature offered these government land grants for sale. The land sold from one dollar and fifty cents to two dollars per acre, the money to be used in digging the canal. The only stipulation was that the government boats and agents be allowed to travel along the canal free of cost.

In 1832 work began on the canal at Fort Wayne. The canal was completed to Evansville in 1852. The entire length of the canal was four hundred and sixty miles, eighty-seven of which were in Ohio. The total cost of the Wabash and Erie canal was six million dollars. Along with the completion of the canal came the railroad as a means of transportation, with the result that the canal became useless before many years. From Evansville to Terre Haute, the canal followed a route that afterward became the right-of-way of the Evansville & Indianapolis railroad.

The Wabash & Erie canal extended through the eastern part of Gibson county and furnished a highway for the transportation of much of the products of this county. The little town of Port Gibson, on the southeast bank of the canal, thrived and waxed strong. There were also two reservoirs at Port Gibson, built as feeders to the canal. One of these covered an area of two thousand four hundred acres, the other being much smaller. The canal also built locks at Port Gibson and altogether the little settlement became an important station, in fact, the principal canal point in Gibson county.

In 1851-52 Elisha Embree, an attorney of Princeton, and Samuel Shan-

non platted the town of Port Gibson and otherwise prepared for a permanent village. By that time Port Gibson boasted of having a store, a blacksmith shop and a flouring mill, the latter being promoted by Mr. Iglehardt of Evansville. Later on "Dud" Campbell started a saloon. For a time after the completion of the canal passenger traffic was quite heavy and the boats always stopped for an hour or two at Port Gibson.

Had the railroads been a few years later in coming into the county, the town of Port Gibson would have blossomed into a small city. The arrival of the railroad sounded the death knell of the Wabash and Erie canal and Port Gibson.

#### HAZELTON.

This is the second oldest town in Gibson county. It was named in honor of Gervas Hazelton, the second white settler in the county to permanently locate. Gervas Hazelton first lived in a "camp," the back of which was an immense walnut log and sides of poles covered with bark, the front open to admit the heat and light of large log fires. Hazelton was famed far and wide as an entertainer and his camp was always open to the struggling settlers.

The town of Hazelton was surveyed and platted by Lucius French in 1856. T. S. Fuller erected the first frame building in Hazelton. In about 1856 John Breedlove built a blacksmith shop. Being located on the south bank of White river, the town became a very important port in the days of flat and keel-boats. Numerous cargoes of corn, wheat and pork were shipped from Hazelton every week. New Orleans was then the best market for farm products raised, at that date, around Hazelton. The highway of travel was via the Patoka, Wabash, Ohio and Mississippi rivers and five or six weeks were required to make the round trip. A complement of five men was the usual number required with each boat. And it was no trouble to get hands, as many young men were anxious to make the trip and would do it for little pay. Imagine men shoving a keel-boat loaded with merchandise from New Orleans to Hazelton or Patoka and you will get a better idea of Gibson county's situation in its infancy. The first steamboat of any note to pass up White river was the "Cleopatria"; she made fast at the ferry where Hazelton stands and attracted big crowds of people.

#### THE TOWN IN 1913.

The present town of Hazelton is a very substantial one, considering the misfortunes that befell the town in earlier years. The town was incorporated

about twenty-five years ago and the present officers are: Trustees, James M. Phillips, Henry Thorne and John D. Milburn; treasurer, H. N. Weer; clerk, B. I. Rumble; marshal, Elijah Gilbert. The physicians are H. D. Gudge, H. M. Arthur and U. B. Loudin. There is a town water company, the plant being owned by the city and supplying water from White river. This plant was erected in 1909 at a cost of six thousand eight hundred dollars. Other business interests are as follows: Blacksmiths, L. H. Ferguson & Son, T. F. Thomas & Son; barbers, T. T. Phillips, F. D. Steelman; general stores, C. J. Snyder & Company, D. L. Bonner, John H. Briner and T. T. Thorne; drugs, A. C. Sisson, H. C. DePriest; livery, William Morrison; furniture, H. Clement; groceries, C. H. Peppers, C. Y. Henderson; grain, Paul Kuhn, Princeton Milling Company, A. C. Heise; hotels, F. Knight, Marcus Wellman, and the Westfall House; hardware and harness, Wolff & Shawhan; lumber, H. P. Phillips; millinery, Mrs. T. T. Thorne; meat, Adam Kline; restaurants, H. N. Johnson, Frank Purkiser, J. H. Bryant; live stock, John W. Ford; veterinary, W. F. Thorne; coal, James M. Phillips, J. A. McFetridge; poultry, Ivy Triplett; photographer; ferry, M. O. Decker; oil, John Knaube.

There are three congregations in Hazelton, the Presbyterian, the Methodist and the Baptist, but none of the denominations have a resident pastor. They are composed of about a hundred members each and have existed since the early fifties. There are three main lodges, the Masonic, the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias, besides numerous insurance and beneficiary lodges.

The Citizens State Bank of Hazelton was organized in May, 1903, and reorganized and rechartered in December, 1910. The first capital stock was \$25,000, and the first officers were: Josiah Kightly, president; Lawrence Wheeler, vice-president; Charles L. Howard, cashier; Frank L. Steelman, assistant cashier. The present officers are: H. M. Arthur, president; Aaron Trippet, Sr., vice-president; F. L. Steelman, cashier; Chas. W. McFetridge, assistant cashier. The present capital is \$40,000, the surplus and undivided profits, \$24,000, and the deposits, \$150,000. The bank building was erected in 1913 and cost the sum of \$6,000.



MT. OLYMPUS SCHOOL, BUILDING, WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP.





## CHAPTER XXXI.

### WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP.

This township was named after the first president of the United States and is located in the northeastern part of the county. Originally covered with dense timber, the land today is very rough and broken. However, the soil is productive, especially in the bottom lands. White and Patoka rivers, Yellow, Engine, Pond, Goose, Sand branch and other tributaries afford excellent drainage. The township is bounded on the north by Pike county and White river, east by Pike county, south by Center and Patoka, and west by White river and township. Another descriptive location is by portions of township 1 south, range 9, township 1 south, range 10, and township 1 north, range 10.

The Decker brothers, Joseph, Jacob and Luke, first came to this township in 1800 and built a ferry across White river at a point where Buena Vista stood. In the May term, 1813, the Gibson county commissioners' court ordered a road opened from Decker's ferry to Severns' ferry on the Patoka river, this being the first one opened by this court.

One of the next settlers was Nathaniel West, also in 1800. Then came Abraham Decker from Kentucky, Robert Falls, W. G. Collins, Mrs. Betsey Milburn, Thomas Gardner of South Carolina, Thomas Sullivan of Ireland, John Stookey and John I. Neely. The first sermons in the township were preached by Joseph Milburn, a Baptist minister, and the first church was built on military donation No. 77, the building made of logs and without any floor. The first resident physician of Washington township was Dr. Joseph Davidson; Richard Garner was the first blacksmith, and the first justices, in order, were William Phillips, Jonathan Gulick, Robert Kirk and John Gulick. The first death was of a man named McCoy, who died on a keel-boat. The first postoffice in the township was established at Buena Vista and was called "West Buena Vista." John Cunningham was postmaster. Other offices were located at Kirksville, later Wheeling, and one between Hazelton and Petersburg in Pike county, but all have been abandoned. John Claypool opened a store at Decker's ferry in 1816, and this was the first in the township.

Until 1824 the territory of what is now Washington township formed a part of White River township. In August of the latter year the board of county commissioners laid off the boundaries of Washington township and organized the same. Again, in 1837, the boundaries were enlarged by adding a part of White River township to it.

The manufacturing in this township has been very light. Lucian Dunn-ing had a wagon factory in 1870, and there were several small mills, quarries and various trades.

The population of this township in 1910 was one thousand five hundred and forty-six, it having lost, as it is found that in 1900 it had a population of one thousand nine hundred and four. There are no towns or villages in this township.

An amusing incident of early days here will be found in the following lines: "William Phillips was the township's first justice of the peace. Jack Chambers, a local preacher, had rendered service to the people of the township, as spiritual adviser, for which he was to have been paid in coon skins and other peltry, each subscriber agreeing to pay in so many skins. His parishioners, as he thought, were slow to pay him, and he brought suit before Esquire Phillips on his subscription list against all, and had service on each and every delinquent to appear and answer to the demands of the plaintiff, Jack Chambers. Pursuant to notice, court had convened, the parties, plaintiff and defendants were present, the plaintiff claiming satisfaction by means of judgment on his subscription paper, when one Mulholland, who was acting as agent or attorney for the defendants, walked into court loaded down with the stipulated furs and skins, and, to the surprise of the holy man, made tender of them in full satisfaction of the plaintiff's claims. The case ended in a general laugh, and pleasantness prevailed, all being satisfied with the practical joke."

There was a stone quarry near the Patoka river, where stone had been taken out and sent by flat-boat down the river from Kirksville, now known as Wheeling. This place at one time was quite a business center, having a large flouring-mill, stores, blacksmith shops, postoffice, etc. It is situated on section 19, on the northeast branch of the Patoka river. It was located too far from the Evansville & Terre Haute railroad to help it much, and so close as to materially injure its chances for success. Its flouring-mill was burned in time, and from its loss and railroad influences the town has gone to ruin and decay, nothing of note remaining to mark the spot where once much business was transacted.

## BUENA VISTA.

This little, old hamlet is in the northern part of the township on the west bank of White river, on military donation land No. 2. It was platted in 1848 and prospered for six years, having four business houses that carried excellent stocks; two packing houses, one saw-mill, a hotel, blacksmith shop, wagon shop, two doctors, one saloon, one church and one school house. When the railroad was built, Hazelton, a station on that line of railroad, drew the most of the business from it and left it to die for want of support. There its site stands on the sands of White river. Nothing of importance is there today.

This township is a triangular shaped, though rough edged, territory, the northeastern point of one of the most irregular counties in all Indiana.

## CHAPTER XXXII.

### WABASH TOWNSHIP.

In the extreme southwestern portion of Gibson county is found Wabash township, named from the famous, historic river whose waters wash its entire north and western borders. There are two series of elevations, commonly known as the "Upper Hills" and "Lower Hills"; there are also in different parts of this township Indian mounds. The scenery in this township in many places is indeed charming. In the early days, in the mid-summer months, when the waters were low, numerous herds of deer and other animals were attracted hither to feed and the Indians also sought this locality as among the excellent hunting grounds of the Wabash valley. During the years between 1800 and 1815 a few of the half-breed trappers from the post at Vincennes resorted to the streams and bayous of this section to set their beaver traps, which animals then abounded in large numbers. Wabash was originally covered with a dense forest, consisting of the several kinds of elm, maple, oak, poplar, linden, walnut, hickory, pecan, wild cherry and other varieties of forest growth. The farms and clearings made hard toil on the part of the early pioneer.

There is a large bayou extending diagonally across the township from northeast to southwest. This forms a basin for the surplus waters of the Wabash river and has its source in that river. There are also several small lakes or rather ponds here, among which are Goose, Fish, Foot's, Grassy, Brushy, Grindle and Otter Pond. The larger bayou passing through the township is known as the "Big Bayou."

### ORGANIZATION.

Wabash township was formed by the wishes of the inhabitants as set forth in a petition and presented to the county commissioners at their November term, 1838. Prior to that date it formed a part of Montgomery township. The first election of the new township was held at the house of Joshua Jordon, on the first Monday of April, 1839. The election was for the purpose of electing two justices of the peace. The first settler here was Daniel

Williams and family, consisting of wife and nine children. He located here in the summer of 1813 on a portion of the farm which afterwards was owned by Moses Lamar. Williams was from North Carolina originally, but moved to Tennessee, and from there to Gibson county. After arriving here he cleared a small tract of land and built him a small pole shanty. The locality being infested with Buffalo gnats, which were troublesome, as well as dangerous to what little live stock he owned, he therefore, after remaining here a few months, decided to pull up and leave for unknown parts.

The second settlers to arrive were James Barnett and family, who came in the autumn of 1815. They were Kentuckians. He built the second log house. It was an improvement over the first cabin, as it possessed a clap-board door and clay-and-stick chimney. The next settlers were John Thompson and A. J. Cooper and their families. John Thompson was possessed of more than ordinary enterprise and of some intelligence. He was a justice of the peace while Wabash formed a part of Montgomery township, and was the first justice in the territory now embraced in what is Wabash township. Among other early pioneers were Jacob Carabaugh, R. Jordon, James Crowley, J. Tweedle and Thomas Barnett. The first farm to be really well improved was made by Jordon. Young Lamar was one of the prominent early settlers and near his residence was erected a very small log school house, generally styled as the Lamar school house. It was there William Cash taught the first school in Wabash township to about twenty of the children of the settlement. The first preacher to visit this section was Rev. Peter Salsman, who preached at the house of Mr. Lamar in 1820, and occasionally after that in the school house.

The early physician who resided here was Dr. Jesse Fuget. A murder was committed at a dance, or a "frolic," as then called, at the home of Presley Garret, where William Lance, a guest, killed one Watson. The murderer was convicted and sent to the penitentiary for nine years.

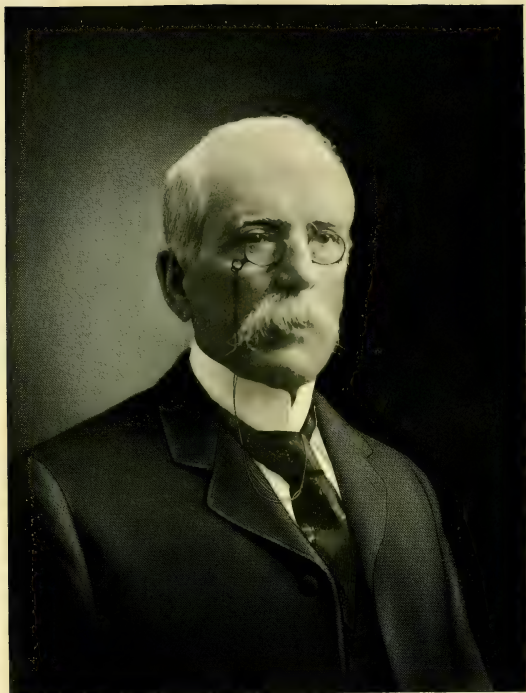
One of the best improvements in the township years ago was the building of a bridge across the Big Bayou, near the dividing line between the farm of John W. Robb and William J. Jordon. This bridge was long known in the western part of the county as the "Red Bridge," so called for its coat of red paint. This was well built and was covered its entire length.

If it were not for the floods of the Wabash, this township would be the garden spot of the whole county, for its soil is like that of the Nile itself. But from early days there have been from two to six floods annually, and this kept the actual improvement back many decades. But in later years differ-

ent methods have come to obtain and much of the swampy land has been tile drained and, with proper care and a fair season (not too many rains), the township produces a hundred bushels of grain per acre.

In 1910 the township had a population of nine hundred and fifty-one, somewhat of a decrease from the census of 1900. The schools and churches are mentioned in the chapters on such subjects. There are no towns and villages within Wabash township. Much of the trading is done at Owensville.





O. M. Melborn



# BIOGRAPHICAL

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HON. OSCAR M. WELBORN.

In the largest and best sense of the term, Judge Oscar M. Welborn is distinctively one of the notable men of his day and generation, and as such his life record is entitled to a conspicuous place in the annals of his county and state. As a citizen he has been public-spirited and enterprising. As a friend and neighbor he has combined the qualities of head and heart that have won confidence and commanded respect. As an attorney who has a comprehensive grasp upon the philosophy of jurisprudence he is easily the peer of his professional brethren of the Indiana bar, while as a judge of the circuit court he discharged his duties with signal ability, conscientious care and in such a manner as to win the universal commendation of all who had business in his court. It is scarcely less than supererogation in outlining the leading facts in his life to refer to him as a lawyer in the ordinary phraseology which meets requirement when dealing with the average member of the legal profession. He has indeed been much more than eminently successful in his legal career, as indicated by his splendid record at the bar and his long retention on the bench of his judicial circuit. He is a master of his profession, a leader among men distinguished for the high order of their legal ability and his eminent attainments and ripe judgment make him an authority in all matters involving a sound knowledge of jurisprudence, achieving success in the courts at an age when most young men are just entering upon the formative period of their lives. Wearing the judicial ermine with becoming dignity and bringing to every case submitted to him a clearness of perception and ready power of analysis characteristic of the learned jurist, his name and work for years earned him recognition as one of the distinguished citizens in a community noted for the high order of its talent.

Oscar M. Welborn is the fourth son of Samuel Parsons and Mary (Waters) Welborn and was born and reared on a farm near Owensville, Indiana. In close touch with nature and amid the bracing air and whole-

some influence of a rural life, the future lawyer and jurist spent his youth and young manhood. His early experience on the farm tended to develop a healthful physique, and while engaged in the labor of the fields he learned to place a correct value upon honest toil, besides laying broad and deep the foundation for his future course of action. He received his elementary education in the public schools of Owensville and Princeton, and then, having decided to make the practice of law his life work, he took the law course at the University of Ohio. After completing his legal studies, Mr. Welborn returned to Princeton and at once entered upon the active practice of his profession, in which he rapidly forged to the front and early earned recognition as a capable lawyer. Though he efficiently discharged the duties of some minor official positions, Judge Welborn's public career really began when, on March 15, 1873, Governor Thomas A. Hendricks appointed him judge of the eleventh judicial circuit to fill a vacancy created by the abolishment of the court of common pleas. Judge Welborn came to the bench well qualified for his exacting duties and responsibilities, and from the beginning his judicial career was characterized by such a profound knowledge of the law and an earnest and conscientious desire to apply it impartially that he was not long in gaining the respect and confidence of the attorneys and litigants and earning for himself an honorable reputation among the leading jurists of the state. From the first his labors were very arduous, as many important cases were tried in his court, not a few coming before him by change of venue, in addition to which he was also frequently called to other districts to sit on cases in which large interests were involved. So far as known, his rulings in all cases were eminently satisfactory and impartial and his decisions so in accordance with law and practice that everybody interested was thoroughly satisfied with his course. As a judge he more than met the expectations of his friends and the public and so discharged the duties of the office as to receive the hearty approval and warm commendation of the bar in his own and other circuits without regard to party. He brought to the bench the dignity becoming a high position, and in the line of duty was industrious, careful and singularly painstaking, which, combined with his sterling honesty and fearlessness of purpose, made him one of the most popular and efficient men ever called to preside over the court in this circuit. It is but just to say, and greatly to his credit, that no political prejudice or party zeal was ever allowed to deflect his mind from its own convictions, and while discharging his official functions personal ties and friendships, as well as his own interests and opinions, were lost sight of in his conscientious efforts to

render equal and exact justice to those whose affairs were adjudicated in his court. His opinions and decisions were always lucid, unstrained and vigorous, his statements full and comprehensive, and his analysis and interpretation of the law logical and complete. That Judge Welborn's course on the bench met with the full approval of his constituents was attested by the fact that he was re-elected to succeed himself time and again until he was finally compelled to decline election to this office, thus serving a period of thirty-six years and seven months, a record without parallel in the state of Indiana, and probably in the United States. The eleventh judicial circuit over which Judge Welborn presided for so long a period was originally organized in 1873, and was composed of the counties of Gibson, Dubois and Pike. The Legislature of 1895 changed the circuit, which after that year was made up of the counties of Gibson and Posey, which formed the eleventh judicial circuit, after the retirement of Judge Welborn and until 1913.

At a meeting of the bar of the circuit court of Pike county, held on April 5, 1895, the meeting having been called to take leave of its long-time judge, who had been assigned to the new circuit, the following memorial was unanimously adopted and ordered spread of record on the order book of that court:

"The members of the bar of Pike county who have long cherished an affectionate respect for the Honorable Oscar M. Welborn, who has been the judge of this court since May, 1873, desire to bear testimony to his great learning, legal acumen and probity as judge. While enforcing obedience, he has yet been merciful to the transgressor and sought his reformation, and in the decision of controversies between individuals he has been painstaking in the highest degree and his decisions have been learned, impartial and accurate far beyond the usual incumbent of the judicial office. To the members of the bar, especially those beginning the practice, he has been instructor and advisor and helped with his ready learning to solve difficulties and intricacies else insurmountable and while dispensing inflexible justice, has been genial and kindly.

"Therefore, in testimony of his courtesy and kindness as well as his labor and learning, we express in this manner our deep regret at the sundering of existing relations and hope that his future associations will be as pleasant as the past and as profitable to the new jurisdiction he assumes."

On the conclusion of his long and faithful service as jurist, and by way of commemorating his retirement from the bench, the members of the Prince-

ton bar arranged a reception and banquet complimentary to Judge Welborn, and which was held at the Masonic Temple at Princeton on the evening of October 8, 1909. Between fifty and sixty members of the Vincennes, Petersburg, Evansville and Mount Vernon bar associations were present and participated in the exercises of the evening. On this occasion Thomas R. Paxton, who was toastmaster, said in part:

"This is the first and only time when the bar of Gibson county has given a dinner in honor of one of its members—the occasion is unique and remarkable. This dinner calls attention to, and celebrates, the unique and remarkable record of a Gibson county lawyer who was appointed as judge by Governor Thomas A. Hendricks in 1873.

"Since his appointment, continuously to the present time, this Gibson county lawyer has faithfully discharged the numerous and onerous duties of a judge of the circuit court with signal ability, and with conscientious care, and with unflagging diligence, and with great learning and legal acumen, and with good, sound judgment, and without fear, and without favor. For thirty-six years he has worn the judicial robes with grace and dignity; and moreover, gentlemen, he has kept the judicial ermine clean, unsoiled and untarnished.

"His term of service exceeds by two years that of the great John Marshall, as chief justice of the supreme court of the United States. Truly it is a remarkable record; it is also a very honorable record, one that a young man may laudably covet and strive to attain. Seldom is a man permitted to devote so many years to honorable public service. The influences of such a life are far-reaching and abiding; they roll from soul to soul, and still go on forever. 'Progress in society and civilization is due in large measure to such good influences. We cannot overestimate the value of our inheritance from the past, from the noble, the great and the true, who still rule us from their arms.'

"The city of Princeton is proud that one of its citizens has attained such distinction. For nothing confers such honor and glory upon a city as high-minded, noble men. And the Gibson county bar is proud that the reputation of one of its members as a learned and just judge extends far and wide."

A number of letters of regret were received from prominent members of the southern Indiana bar, who were not able to be present on this occasion, and from which the following excerpts relative to the life and character of Judge Welborn are quoted:

Alexander Gilchrist, of Evansville: "It would be a high privilege to join with my brethren of the Gibson county bar in this testimonial to Judge Welborn, who for more than a generation has been a good judge, a great judge, a fearless judge. A potent force for righteousness. Lawbreakers will now breathe more freely, but all good men must deplore the ending of his noble judicial career."

E. B. Richardson, of Petersburg: "He has been an honor to the districts in which he has presided as judge, and he retires from his long services with a record of ability and faithfulness that will last for all time."

Arthur H. Taylor, of Petersburg: "Let me assure you that I think it fitting upon Judge Welborn's retirement from his high office that this public recognition of his services to the bench and bar of this circuit be shown in the manner contemplated. I have had the honor of many years' practice in his courts and ever found him large-minded, unselfish, just and, above all, the honest, fearless arbitrator. He worthily upheld the dignity and administered the high trust reposed in him with justness and impartiality. In the performance of his duties he proceeded along lines, as I have heard himself express, 'That there were no small cases. Every trial is a contest between principles, which has for its object the discovery of truth and the administration of justice,' and I know that the love of justice is the strongest element in this character of exceptional symmetry and strength. The example of his career may well be taken as a model by those who follow him in the high office he so long and worthily held."

From the many newspaper comments at the time, the following lines are quoted:

The *New Harmony Times*, Friday, March 8, 1907: "Judge Welborn's occupancy of the bench has been long and honorable, and it is a career whose history if written would reflect a tireless industry and an intensely earnest desire to uphold the majesty of the law and administer without fear or favor the justice that an enlightened people demand.

"The period that Judge Welborn has served the people of this judicial district has been crowded with official duties which would have tried the endurance of men less resolute. During his career he has been called upon to preside over cases when a right or wrong decision meant a step forward or a march to the rear; he has sat upon the bench when his personal safety was a matter of deep concern to his friends, yet through the years that marked his judicial course his purpose to mete out justice as his trained and educated mind divined it has never faltered and his occupancy of the bench

has left the people that he served a rich heritage in decisions rightfully given; decisions that have stood for all that was good and clean and uplifting."

The *Louisville Courier-Journal*, October, 1909: "In the speeches made at the banquet frequent references were made to Judge Welborn as an 'able and just judge' and as a 'model citizen.' It may well be believed that he was worthy of such high tributes. Few judges, subject to popular favor, which is often uncertain and shifting, are able to win election after election and to continue in service with the unimpaired confidence of the bar and their constituents for a period of thirty-six years. In that length of time a circuit judge tries thousands of actions at law and passes sentence in thousands of criminal prosecutions. It is a position where a man in the fulfillment of his duties necessarily must make enemies. Litigants often are bitter in their prejudices and disposed to resent decisions unfavorable to their contentions. Men convicted of criminal offenses have no 'good opinion of the law,' and no great love for the court officers charged with the law's execution.

"There are manifold ways wherein a jurist may create enemies. He is constantly passing on motions and demurrers, smoothing out knotty places in the laws and settling controversies between lawyers and contentions between litigants. Many lawyers are politicians and there are few litigants who do not take an interest in politics. Circuit judges owe their nominations to political parties and he who can discharge conscientiously the exacting duties of his office and at the same time maintain his political balance, must be an 'able and just judge' and a 'model citizen,' strongly intrenched in the affections of his constituency, or a man of rarest diplomacy.

"Judge Welborn's record is a remarkable one, and it is a striking tribute to his integrity and ability that more than fifty leading representatives of the bar associations of Evansville, Vincennes, Mont Vernon, Petersburg and Princeton gathered at the festal board to do him honor. He could receive no higher testimonial, no fitter encomium, as he closes his official career of thirty-six years and voluntarily seeks retirement to private life."

The *Princeton Democrat*, February, 1890: "Judge Welborn has long filled that office to the satisfaction of the people of all parties in this circuit. His long experience, great learning, untiring industry, patience, and absolute impartiality render him one of the best trial judges in the state. These qualifications eminently fit him for the supreme bench, where his services would be equally satisfactory to the state at large. Had all our supreme judges been so eminently endowed with these traits, the docket of that court would not be so far behind."

*Mount Vernon Evening Sun*, October 22, 1909: "In his long judicial service, many cases, civil and criminal, of vast import have been tried before him. Whatever popular opinion may have been as to the results reached, few ever questioned his conduct as judge. Many of these cases have been appealed. In most instances the judgments were affirmed and not a few of the cases are today landmarks of the law in Indiana, both from the importance of principles involved and the novelty of questions decided. One characteristic of Judge Welborn which greatly commended him to the people, has been his firm stand for the peace and quiet of society. While tempering justice with mercy when circumstances warranted it, he believed the crime should be punished and, above all, life and property protected."

Judge Welborn has ever kept in touch with the interests of his city and county, and is an ardent advocate and liberal patron of all worthy enterprises making for their advancement and prosperity. The Judge was a stockholder and director of the People's National Bank of Princeton, in the success of which he was a very important factor, and, as throwing a side light on his character and on the business methods advocated by him, the following lines are quoted from the *Berkeley, California, Independent*, of December 10, 1907:

"In the city of Princeton, Indiana, there is a bank that has made a unique record for itself during these trying times. It is the People's National Bank, with a capitalization of only one hundred thousand dollars, but carrying deposits well up towards a half million. When the crash came in the last days of October, the banks where it was carrying its main reserve funds suddenly sent out word to all the interior banks that their money could not be furnished them on call, and along with this disturbing news volunteered the advice to them that the only thing to do was to run on a limited schedule so to speak. But it did not take the directors and officers of this bank long to decide that they would do nothing of the sort. For nearly half a century they had met every legitimate demand without cavil, and they decided to maintain the same policy to the end. This in spite of the fact that probably no other bank in hundreds of miles around would undertake to do the same thing. But what happened? When the end of the first week came they had more money than at the beginning; at the close of business the second week they were abundantly supplied with funds, and at the close of the fifth week they were in better condition than at any time in the history of the bank. This bank didn't scare the people by first getting scared itself. The panic in that city lasted less than three days, for the people didn't hoard their money."

Sufficient has been said to indicate the Judge's character and high stand-



ing in the community where he has so long resided, and it only remains to be said that throughout his entire professional and official career he has been animated by lofty motives and made every personal consideration subordinate to the higher claims of duty. Broad and liberal in his views, with the greatest good of his fellow men ever before him, his conduct has been that of the lover of his kind and the true and loyal citizen who is ready at all times to make any reasonable sacrifice for the cause in which his interests are enlisted. He is withal a man of the people, proud of his distinction as a citizen of the state and nation for whose laws and institutions he has the most profound admiration and respect, while his strong mentality, good judgment and unimpeachable integrity have demonstrated to the satisfaction of all his ability to fill honorably important official positions, and to discharge worthily the duties of high trust.

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#### COL. WILLIAM M. COCKRUM.

The Cockrum family of Gibson county are of Scotch descent and among the very early settlers in this part of Indiana. Col. James W. Cockrum, the father of William M., was born in North Carolina in 1799. From there he removed to Tennessee, and in 1816 came to Gibson county, Indiana. He settled near Francisco, but soon afterwards removed to a farm east of Oakland City, where he lived for several years. He subsequently moved onto a farm where the town of Oakland City now stands and remained there until his death, in 1875. In early days he was a colonel of militia. He was a man of unusual intelligence and business capacity and for ten years followed steamboating on the southern rivers. He was the owner of two steamboats, the "Otsego" and the "Nile," and wore them out in the southern cotton trade. He ran a great many flat-boats that carried produce to New Orleans and other southern cities. In addition, he always carried on farming and mercantile business at home. In later years he became an active and zealous member of the General Baptist church. His efforts in building up that religious denomination of which he was a member and supplying it with a house to worship in, are still remembered by the older people of Oakland City. He was a just man. It can be truthfully said of him that he died leaving to his posterity the legacy of a life and name untarnished by an act of wrong or injustice to a living man. His intelligence pointed out to him that a free and liberal system of schools was the best safeguard of our liberties, therefore, any proposition in that direction found him an enthusiastic supporter.





COL. WM. M. COCKRUM.



Politically, he was an old-line Whig and later a Republican. He represented Gibson county in the State Legislature in 1848 and again in 1852. He was an active supporter of the old Straight-line railroad and one of its directors. He was a firm temperance man and, with the aid of his two sons, kept Oakland City free from saloons as long as he lived, and the two sons fought it out for the next seven years, or until 1881. Mr. Cockrum was twice married. His first wife was Sarah Barrett, a native of South Carolina. By that union there were seven children, none of whom are now living. After the death of his first wife, Colonel Cockrum married Indah P. Barrett, a sister of his first wife and a daughter of William Barrett. Col. William M. Cockrum is the only survivor of that union. He was born December 8, 1837, on the old Cockrum homestead, now in the center of Oakland City.

William M. Cockrum is a self-made man. There was but poor opportunity in his youth for receiving an education. He was very active in "underground railroad" work in this section. After the passage of the fugitive slave law of 1850, there was a great impetus given to fugitive slave hunting in all the free states, and in many cases free negroes were captured and sold into slavery for life. He was one of the twelve men who kidnapped the ten negro hunters who were trying to capture free negroes and gave them a lesson that they never forgot. This act greatly lessened the annoyance that our people had from these negro hunting bullies.

At the breaking out of the war, he enlisted in Company F, Forty-second Indiana Infantry, and rose through the intermediate grades from a second lieutenantcy to the lieutenant-colonelcy of the regiment. He re-enlisted and continued in the service until the close of the war. In the battle of Chickamauga he was desperately wounded, an ounce ball passing through his body at his hips. He was captured lying on the battlefield and taken to Libby prison, where he remained for eight months, suffering untold misery which has left him a cripple for life.

In his younger days, William M. Cockrum engaged with his brother, James M. Cockrum, in a general store and the produce business and dealt largely in pork and leaf tobacco. They had over one hundred hogsheads of tobacco in New Orleans when the war came that they never got one cent for. Since the war he has engaged in farming and fruit growing. Colonel Cockrum, in many respects, is a typical Westerner, imbued with that vim and push that is so characteristic of the free sons of the West. He has done more to build up the town of Oakland City than any other resident.

On October 5, 1856, Colonel Cockrum was united in marriage to

Lucretia, daughter of John and Mary (O'Neil) Harper. She also is of Scotch-Irish descent. Nine children have been born to them. Their names in the order of their birth are: John B., who is a lawyer, is and has been for the last fifteen years Vanderbilt's general attorney for the Lake Erie railroad and its tributary; he has recently served two years as grand sire of the Odd Fellows of the World; is a thirty-second-degree Mason and lives in Indianapolis. Ella C., the widow of W. S. Wheatley, deceased, is the teacher of English and dean of the women of the Oakland City College. Clara C. is the wife of T. M. Campbell. Willie died in infancy. Oliver M. was government land inspector and died in Bismark, North Dakota, in 1907. Zoe C., the wife of Prof. B. W. Aldrich, at Moores Hill College. Mary C., the wife of Rev. W. P. Dearing, president of Oakland City College. James W., president of the J. W. Cockrum Printing Company. Marion O. Cockrum, owner of the M. O. Cockrum jewelry store.

Mr. Cockrum is an earnest worker in the cause of Christianity, a member of the General Baptist denomination. Politically, Colonel Cockrum since casting his first vote has been an earnest Republican. In 1907 he published "A Pioneer History of Indiana." The book is full of thrilling incidents of the pioneer life, telling how people had to live, their manners and customs, giving the history of many of the battles they had with Indians and the beasts of the forest. A history of the public schools is also given.

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#### GILBERT R. STORMONT.

Gilbert R. Stormont was born (1843) in Gibson county, about four miles east of Princeton. His father was William Stormont, who came with the Stormont family from South Carolina in 1832, and whose ancestry is given in detail in the history of the Stormont family in another place in this volume. His mother was Elvira Louisa Carithers, a daughter of Andrew Carithers, who came from Lincoln county, Tennessee, in 1836. His mother died in 1852; her sister, who married James Stormont, died in 1877; a brother, Andrew J. Carithers, died at his home near Princeton in 1893; another sister, Mrs. John Dunlap, of Chicago, is the only one of the Andrew Carithers family now living.

The early boyhood life of the subject of this sketch was spent on the farm, and he contributed a boy's part to the work incident to farm life. His advent was at a time when most of the neighborhood in which he lived was in the native forest, and the changing of this forest into cultivated fields re-

quired much hard labor on the part of the head of the family, and all the boys who were available for service. About the time he got big enough to make a full hand on the farm the Civil war came, and, following the example of nearly all the boys and able-bodied men of the neighborhood, he enlisted in the army. His enlistment was in Company B, Fifty-eighth Indiana Infantry, dated October 1, 1861, organized in Princeton. The regiment left the organization camp for the front December 13, 1861. The subject of this sketch followed the fortunes of this regiment until the expiration of his term of service, November 12, 1864, participating in the battles of Stone's River, Chickamauga, and a number of other engagements.

The opportunities for education were limited in the early life of this subject, but the opportunity was not altogether lacking. There was the district school, in the old log school house at the foot of that big hill near the Makemson home, where "lickin' and larnin'" was carried on in a spasmodic sort of a way for two or three months in the year; then there were other schools of more modern methods in the neighborhood later on. The teachers in these schools, as a rule, didn't know much, but educational qualification was not the most essential requirement for a school teacher in those days. Whatever education the subject of this sketch acquired was obtained in these schools and in the more advanced schools in Princeton, and in the Indiana University, which he attended after his army service.

Mr. Stormont was engaged in teaching for awhile, but it is not necessary for the reader to make any deductions as to qualifications from the foregoing paragraph. His first experience in that line of work was in a district school down near the old reservoir, hard by the limpid water where the frogs rendered grand opera, by day and by night; one term in Oakland City, when that town had Mayhugh's hotel, two stores and a blacksmith shop; one year in the old Seminary, in Princeton, where the hogs were wont to hold stated meetings under the floor, and engage in noisy dispute for favorite place, and where the fleas roamed at will throughout the building; two years in the Princeton graded school in the new building, with D. Eckley Hunter as superintendent. Then he got into the newspaper game. He went to Albion, Illinois, in 1873, and bought an old pile of junk and converted it into a newspaper outfit with which the *Albion Journal* was founded. This venture, though at first it did not appear very promising, proved to be a financial success. After three years Mr. Stormont sold the *Journal* plant and returned to Princeton, and, in 1877, he bought the *Princeton Clarion*, which he continued to publish for nearly twenty-five years. If there is any marked distinction or creditable record made in his life work it will probably be conceded that it was made while editor and publisher of the *Clarion*. Anyhow,

this record, whether creditable or otherwise, remains open for inspection and review. The files of the *Clarion* are in the public library in Princeton, and are in constant use by those seeking information of past events. In addition to his newspaper work, Mr. Stormont has engaged in other work of literary character. His name appears as the author, compiler and publisher of several books and pamphlets of historical character, the most important of which is "Hight's History of the Fifty-eighth Indiana Regiment."

The political affiliation of the subject of this sketch is with the Republican party. His first vote for President was cast for Gen. Ulysses S. Grant. His last was for William Howard Taft. He was a delegate to the Republican national convention, in 1884, that nominated James G. Blaine and Gen. John A. Logan. He was presidential elector for the first district of Indiana and cast one of Indiana's fifteen votes for Theodore Roosevelt and Charles Warren Fairbanks for President and Vice-President. As census supervisor, in 1880, he had supervision of the census enumeration in fourteen counties in the southern part of the state. He was deputy collector of internal revenue, in the Evansville district, in 1899-90, under Judge Henry, collector, at Terre Haute. Resigning that position, he accepted an unsolicited appointment as commandant of the Indiana State Soldiers' Home, at Lafayette, continuing in that service for nearly four years. Resigning that position, he returned to his home in Princeton, and soon after was again appointed to the revenue service. This appointment was in the special revenue service, with headquarters at Cincinnati, in a district comprising Ohio, Indiana and Michigan. In 1908 he was transferred to Indianapolis, and later was assigned to the duty of division deputy collector, with headquarters at Terre Haute. On account of the political upheaval of 1912 his connection with the revenue service ceased May 1, 1914, his brand of politics not being in accord with that prevailing in Washington. That it was not because of inefficiency, is evidenced by the following testimonial from his chief accompanying his discharge from the service: "In this connection I desire to acknowledge the good service you have rendered as deputy, and to testify to your fidelity and fitness as an official in the United States revenue department."

Mr. Stormont has been a member of the Grand Army of the Republic since its organization as a national order in 1868. He is a charter member of Archer Post, Princeton, and served as department commander of Indiana in 1890-91. With few exceptions, he has attended all the national and department encampments since the organization of the order.

Mr. Stormont was married to Kate Keys, in Princeton, March 16, 1870. They are members of the United Presbyterian church. The children living are Harry K., who married Eunice Heston, their son, Lowell Heston, living

at Indianapolis. Ralph M., who married Mary Genung, living in Oakland City. Donald M., who married Pearl Murphy, their daughter, Margaret Catherine, living in Princeton.

(PUBLISHER'S NOTE: The publishers of this work take the privilege of adding a few words to the above sketch, to say that Mr. Stormont has for many years been numbered among the leading citizens of Gibson county, and is a worthy representative of a family which, from the pioneer period, has been closely identified with the history of this section of the state. The family has been characterized by personal courage, love of justice, intense loyalty and sturdy integrity, qualities which will make any people great. These same qualities have been exemplified in the subject of this review, who, as soldier, editor, public official and private citizen, has stood firmly for those things which are right and which have tended to advance the general welfare of the community. He has thus rightfully earned the position generally accorded him as one of the representative men of his county.)

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### WILLIAM L. WEST.

The gentleman whose name appears at the head of this biographical review needs no introduction to the people of Gibson county, since his entire life has been spent in this community, a life devoted not only to the fostering of his own interests, but also to the welfare of all. An honorable representative of one of the esteemed families of his section and a gentleman of high character and worthy ambitions, he has filled no small place in the public view, as the important official positions he has held bear witness. He is a splendid type of the intelligent, up-to-date, self-made American in the full sense of the term, and is regarded as one of the very best business men the county can boast of. As a citizen, he is progressive and abreast of the times in all that concerns the common weal and has the unqualified respect and confidence of all.

William L. West, president of the First National Bank, formerly the People's State Bank, of Oakland City, Indiana, first saw the light of day on May 6, 1849, two miles east of Fort Branch, Indiana. He is a son of Samuel H. West, Sr., and his wife, Catherine (Sidle) West, who was born in Meadville, Pennsylvania, in 1823. She was a daughter of George and Barbara Sidle, who came from Pennsylvania to Gibson county in 1828 and settled in Union township, north of the old West homestead. Here they obtained land, which they cleared and upon which they built their home and continued to

live on that spot for many years. They later moved to Fort Branch, where they died. The Sidle family was of German extraction.

Samuel H. West, Sr., father of the immediate subject of this sketch, was born seven miles west of Fort Branch, Indiana, in 1820. He was the son of James West, of South Carolina, who was the first member of the family to come to Gibson county. Here he settled near Blythe's Chapel, where he obtained heavily timbered land, which he converted into well tilled acres, with comfortable dwelling and outbuildings, and where he passed the remainder of his life. He married Barbara Borum and to their union were born the following children, namely: Samuel H., afterwards known as Samuel H., Sr., father of the immediate subject of this sketch. Eliza, who died at home. William, a farmer in Union township, who married Nancy Pritchett. Doss, one of the sons, died during the war, at Knoxville, Tennessee; he was unmarried and a member of the Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry. Betsy married John Redmond and they lived in Union township. Both are now dead. Louisa, another daughter, married Harrison Eaton and they made their home in Owensville. The youngest child was Polly, who became the wife of John Pritchett and they lived near Owensville.

Samuel H. West, Sr., grew up on the homestead, assisting his father. He had very little opportunity for schooling, owing to the moderate circumstances of his parents and the meager opportunities at best, but he was a natural reader and student and acquired through his own efforts quite a good education. As he grew to manhood, he desired to possess land in his own right and, in return for a horse, saddle and bridle, he received eighty acres of heavily timbered land lying two miles east of Fort Branch. To this first possession he added from time to time until he finally possessed four hundred acres of the finest land in the county. This he continued to farm until he retired in 1892. He had the reputation of being an exceptionally good business man, a man who could truthfully style himself "self made," and was well known all over the county. To Samuel H. West, Sr., and his wife Catherine were born seven children: Louisa, who became the wife of N. H. Dorsey, a retired farmer at Oakland City; she died in February of 1913. The second child in order of birth was William L., the immediate subject of this sketch. John A., born October 28, 1851, lives at Antioch, California, and is president of the Antioch National Bank. He married Emma Tecklenburg. Elzaphan was born August 25, 1853, and died August 30, 1855. Mary was born February 7, 1856, and is the wife of P. Bryant, of Fort Branch, Indiana. Isabella, born November 18, 1858, married Charles Gil-



bert, of Columbus, Ohio. Susan, born October 11, 1863, is the wife of William A. Baldwin, residing at Lake Winona, Indiana. Samuel H., born July 8, 1861, is the president of the Farmers and Merchants Bank at Fort Branch. He has been twice married. His first wife was Mattie Cooper, and the second wife Agnes Blessing. Samuel H. West, Sr., and wife were life-long members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and gave much of their time and means to further the cause of religion. His death occurred in June, 1898, and she died December 28, 1910.

William L. West received his elementary education in the home schools, later attending Indiana University at Bloomington four years, graduating in 1873. He then matriculated in Miami Medical College at Cincinnati, Ohio, from which he was graduated in 1876, and immediately took up the practice of medicine at Owensville, Indiana. He practiced there but a short time and on January 11, 1877, was united in marriage to Lisetta D. Speck, of Owensville. She was the daughter of William A. and Lisetta D. (Weikel) Speck, of Dresden, Prussia. They were both young when they came to America and both located in Owensville. Here their marriage took place. Lisetta died and Mr. Speck married a second time, his bride being Elizabeth Schlosky, of Germany. She died in July of 1911. He went to California, where his death occurred.

After his marriage, William L. West left Owensville, going to Fort Branch, where he engaged in the drug business with his brother under the firm name of W. L. & J. A. West. This partnership continued for nearly three years, when he sold his interest to his brother, John, and went to Boonville, Indiana, where he was in the drug business for about two years. He then went to Oakland City in 1881, where he was engaged in the same line for about ten years. In 1891 he sold out and was one of the organizers of the People's State Bank of that place, this organization taking place in 1889. John J. Murphy was president and William L. West was cashier for fifteen years. At the time of Mr. Murphy's death, Mr. West was raised to the presidency and Alvin Wilson was made cashier. The directors are T. Wilson, W. H. Lowry, L. J. Deutsch and David Ingle.

Mr. West was one of the organizers of the Citizens Bank of Princeton in 1903 and served as president for four or five years. Also he and two of his brothers organized the Farmers and Merchants Bank at Fort Branch, which organization he served as president for sixteen years. In August, 1904, Mr. and Mrs. West moved their home to Princeton, locating at No. 213 East State street, where they have since resided, their home being a center of interest to their host of friends. Mr. and Mrs. West have an in-

teresting family of children, the oldest of whom, a little daughter called Bertha, died at the age of three years. The next in order is Carl R., a traveling salesman for a jewelry firm in Indianapolis, whose wife was Miss Jessie Dill. Roland E. is attending school at Valparaiso, Indiana. The fourth child was a little son, Fred, who died when one year old. William L., Jr., has been a telegraph operator stationed at Ashland, Kentucky, but he is now attending Purdue University. The youngest daughter of the family is Catherine, who is in her first year at the State University at Bloomington.

Mr. West is a member of that time-honored body of Free and Accepted Masons, holding his membership in the Oakland City lodge. He has also attained the York Rite or Knights Templar degree of Masonry and is a member of the Eastern Star. The religious sympathies of the family are with the Methodist Episcopal church, of which Mr. West is a member of the Oakland City church. Mr. West comes of a family the different members of which have served their community to the best of their ability in their different days and he and his brothers have done much to advance business interests along safe and conservative lines. One of the brothers, John A., was treasurer of Gibson county at one time. William L. West is a self-made man in the true sense of the term and his keen business judgment coupled with right principles have made him a man highly esteemed by all with whom he comes in contact. He stands as one of the best types of the modern man, clean and strong, and an incentive to young men on the threshold of life.

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### JOHN E. BUTLER.

In 1859 a charitable society in New York city, a part of whose mission was to find homes for homeless children, sent about two hundred of the homeless waifs under their charge to Indiana, a number of them coming to Princeton. Among this number was a mite of a boy of about nine years of age whose full name was John Edward Butler, but as that appeared to be too much of a name for so small a boy, they called him "Johnny Butler." Johnny found a home in Princeton, and, as the years passed, he increased somewhat in size and stature, but he never increased to such an extent as to outgrow his boyhood name. Even in the mature years of manhood his old Princeton friends, and his army associates, know him only as "Johnny Butler," and they prefer to call him by that name. So in this personal sketch, in conformity with the practice of his old-time friends, we will call him by the name by which he is best known.



*John C. Butler*



Johnny Butler was born in Galway, Ireland, August 8, 1850, a son of Mark and Catherine Butler. There is no definite information as to the time his parents came to America, or as to their life history. It is only known that Johnny Butler was cast adrift in the city of New York and became a street waif, and that he was picked up and sent to a charitable institution on Randall's Island, an institution under the management of the department of charity and correction. Here he remained for about two years, receiving such instruction and training as was given by that institution, then under the superintendency of Mr. Ripley. That there was some fond attachment formed for this institution, his only childhood home, is evidenced by a desire to revisit the place in after years. This visit was made a few years ago. But he found that time had made many changes and there was very little to remind him of the scenes of boyhood days. In the office Johnny Butler found in the record kept there one item of interest. It was a record of his name with the memorandum: "Was found on the streets of New York city in the year 1857, about seven years of age. In 1859 was sent to Princeton, Indiana, where he found a home with Mr. M. J. Brady. The last heard of him he was going to school."

But that was not the last that has been heard from Johnny Butler. When the war of the Rebellion came, and President Lincoln called for volunteers, Johnny Butler was among the first to offer his services. He enlisted April 19, 1861, as drummer boy, in the first company that was made up in Princeton, although at that time he was less than eleven years of age. This company was enlisted for three months' service, but was not accepted because the quota for this state was full. A few months later Johnny Butler found service with the Seventeenth Indiana Company, that was enlisted in Princeton for the three-year service. He served as drummer boy in this regiment for several months and was honorably discharged by reason of a general order of the war department, mustering out all regimental bands. In 1864 he re-enlisted in the One Hundred and Twentieth Indiana Regiment and served until January 8, 1866, when he was honorably discharged.

After his army service he attended the public schools in Princeton and Owensville, and took a course in a business college at Vincennes. His ambition was to acquire an education sufficient to fit him for business, and his success in business in after life is evidence that he wisely improved every educational opportunity afforded him.

After employment in various business enterprises he was attracted to

prospects in the Pennsylvania oil fields and he determined to try his fortune there. Here he found favorable opportunity for the employment of his capital, which consisted largely of industry and push. He became identified with the oil industry of Pennsylvania and made investments in that line which proved to be highly remunerative. That there are ups and downs in the oil industry is the experience of every one who has engaged in it, and Johnny Butler's experience is not an exception. But his careful and conservative business judgment has enabled him to make a good showing on the profit side of the ledger in the several years he has been engaged in the business. At present he is president of the Butler Oil Company, and also president of The Marvin Manufacturing Company, producing and manufacturing lubricating oils and greases, at Franklin, Pennsylvania, where his home has been for several years. In that community, and wherever known, he is regarded as a man reliable and trustworthy, and it is to these traits of character that his success in life is due.

This sketch of Johnny Butler is not given for his personal gratification and aggrandizement. It is rather under protest and against his wish that any publicity regarding his life is given. But there is a lesson in such a life that is worth reading. For one to begin life as a street waif, in New York city, without home, kindred or friends, and to work his way to a place among successful and respected business men, is a life worthy of emulation. It happily illustrates the possibilities of a successful life, open to every boy, under the benign influences and advantages of our American institutions, even though the early environments are most unfavorable.

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#### HON. SIMON L. VANDEVEER.

Simon L. Vandever, who is filling with ability and satisfaction the position of judge of the sixty-sixth judicial circuit, is a native son of Indiana, having been born on a farm near English, Crawford county, on October 26, 1868. His parents, Joel and Jemima A. (Monk) Vandever, who are both now deceased, were both also natives of this state, the father having been for many years a successful practicing physician in Crawford county, where he was widely known and highly respected, not only because of his professional success, but also for his high personal character.

Simon L. Vandever received his elementary education in the common

schools of Crawford county, supplementing this by attendance at Marengo Academy, Marengo, Indiana, and Borden Institute, in Clark county, both being excellent educational institutions. During this educational period he taught in the public schools of his native county for several terms. Having entertained an ambition to take up the practice of law as his life work, Simon L. Vandever entered the law office of Jerry L. Suddarth, at Leavenworth, which was at that time the county seat of Crawford county, being thus employed for four years. During this same period his brother, John M. Vandever, was studying law at New Albany in the office of Charles L. Jewett, and after completing their studies and being admitted to the bar, the brothers came to Oakland City, Gibson county, opening a law office here on December 24, 1891. There, under the firm name of J. M. & S. L. Vandever, they continued in the practice for four years, proving themselves able and trustworthy attorneys and attaining a high standing at the Gibson county bar. On January 1, 1895, Simon L. Vandever came to Princeton and the law firm of J. N. & S. L. Vandever from that time forward was one of the best known and most successful in this section of the state. The subject was, in February of 1913, appointed judge of the sixty-sixth judicial circuit and is the present incumbent of that position. In the active practice of law Judge Vandever stood admittedly in the front rank of his profession in this county, being one of the most successful lawyers before the local bar. In his present position his career has been all that his previous record promised. His qualifications for the office of judge are unquestionable. First of all, he has the integrity of character, and then he possesses the natural ability and essential requirements, the acumen of the judicial temperament. He is able to divest himself of prejudice or favoritism and consider only the legal aspects of a question submitted. These are, indeed, words of praise, but the encomium is justified, for the Judge has proved himself a man in all the term implies, and its implication is wide. His career on the bench and at the bar offers a noble example and an inspiration, while he has never been known to fail in that strict courtesy and regard for professional ethics which should ever characterize the members of the bar, his career reflecting credit upon the judiciary and dignifying the profession to which he belongs. Judge Vandever is an active member of the State Bar Association and in that society is a member of the committee on legal education and admission to the bar of the State Bar Association.

Politically, Judge Vandever gives his support to the Democratic party, to the success of which he has contributed by his personal efforts and being

prominent in its councils. Fraternally, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, being a charter member of the last-named lodge at Princeton. Religiously, he is a member of the Presbyterian church and gives his earnest support to every movement looking to the advancement of the highest and best interests of his fellows.

On March 18, 1895, Simon L. Vandever was married to Mary Castetter, a daughter of Ira and Florence (Jackson) Castetter, former residents of Gibson county, but now residing in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Personally, Judge Vandever is genial and easily approached, possessing to a marked degree those qualities which win and retain friendships. He has been successful in his life work, respected in social life and as a neighbor he has discharged his duties in a manner becoming a liberal-minded, intelligent citizen of the community honored by his citizenship.

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#### WILLIAM W. BLAIR, M. D.

It is with pleasure that the biographer has an opportunity to place before the readers of this work the life record of the honorable man and physician whose name initiates this paragraph. A history of Gibson county would be wholly incomplete should there be failure to include one who has passed so many years of usefulness in the community, the influence of whose upright life cannot be estimated. There is no outsider so closely admitted to the love and confidence of a family as the trusted and faithful physician. There is no form of service higher than a heartfelt desire to relieve suffering humanity, and when a physician goes deeper in his diagnoses than mere bodily ills, and treats also moral and spiritual weaknesses, the result is a most beautiful life, the whole effect of which cannot be adjudged from any earthly viewpoint.

Dr. William W. Blair was born at Bloomington, Monroe county, Indiana, on August 6, 1827, the son of James and Jane (Neil) Blair, both of whom were natives of South Carolina. The father was born in 1789 and died March 26, 1849, and the mother's death occurred April 5, 1854, in the seventy-fourth year of her age.

Doctor Blair's father followed the vocation of farming all his life. In the year 1816 he left South Carolina with his little family and settled in



Tennessee, where they remained until 1825, at which time he brought them on to Bloomington, Indiana, where he lived until his death. Doctor Blair is the last remaining member of a family of six children, being the youngest of the family. His elementary education was received in Bloomington, where he later attended the State University in 1844-48. He received special training in his chosen profession at the Ohio Medical College in Cincinnati, Ohio, from which he was graduated March 7, 1850. He had previously decided upon Princeton as the field for his future labors, and arrived here May 15th after his graduation. He immediately took up his practice and has been here ever since, excepting the time later spent at the front during the Civil war. On October 19, 1861, he was commissioned surgeon of the Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry and on August 8, 1862, was made medical director of Gen. T. J. Wood's division. Returning home in the summer of 1864, he resumed his practice here, which has since been uninterrupted.

On October 7, 1851, Doctor Blair was united in marriage to Margaret Warnock, who was born in Ireland. Mrs. Blair's death occurred January 20, 1887. To their union were born seven children: Hetty, wife of Dr. S. F. Gilmore, of Indianapolis; Isabelle, of Princeton; Marie, also at home; Dr. Frank Blair, who died May 11, 1907; Nellie, who died October 7, 1886; Archibald W., who died July 17, 1909, and William, resident in Princeton.

Doctor Blair has the distinction of being the oldest physician in Gibson county and one of the oldest in the state. Princeton was but a small village, with a population of seven hundred and fifty, when the Doctor first came here, and it is difficult for one of a younger generation to appreciate the changes and improvements which time has brought to pass. The physician of today, who makes his calls in his automobile, over excellent country roads, can have no conception of the hardships endured by a physician of the old school who went his way on horseback, along roads which were often scarcely more than a dim path through the woods, fording streams, wading swamps and suffering much personal discomfort in order to traverse the many miles which sometimes separated him from a suffering mortal. It was his untiring faithfulness through those earlier days, as well as his equal attention through the years when modern improvements made his task an easier one, that has made a place for Doctor Blair in the hearts of all those with whom he has come in contact during his long life. In the early days Doctor Blair prepared his own medicines from the crude drugs, an arduous task which is no longer necessary.

Doctor Blair has been a life-long and consistent member of the United Presbyterian church and enjoys the unique distinction of having served as an elder since February 14, 1856. Politically, he is identified with the Republican party, and while he has always taken a keen interest in politics, he has never entertained any ambitions along that line. He is also a member of the honored Grand Army of the Republic. While he has always made his home in Princeton, he is the owner of a farm nearby and has other landed interests.

In this necessarily brief sketch, it is absolutely impossible to do justice to the life history of such a man. He holds the admiration of all, counts his friends in great numbers, and surely no higher tribute can be paid him. Right principles of heart and mind, untiring energy and indomitable will have made the life of Doctor Blair a worthy incentive to those who have chosen the practice of medicine as their life work.

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### JOSEPH P. YOCHUM.

The office of biography is not to give voice to a man's modest opinion of himself and his accomplishments, but rather to leave upon the record the verdict establishing his character by the consensus of opinion on the part of his neighbors and fellow citizens. In touching upon the life history of the subject of this sketch the writer aims to avoid fulsome encomium and extravagant praise; yet he desires to hold up for consideration those facts which have shown the distinction of a true, useful and honorable life—a life characterized by perseverance, energy, broad charity and well-defined purpose. To do this will be but to reiterate the dictum pronounced upon the man by the people who have known him long and well.

Joseph P. Yochum was born November 8, 1859, in Patoka township, Gibson county, Indiana, south of Princeton, the son of John and Barbara (Huffmann) Yochum, natives of the fatherland, they having been born in the city of Munich.

The mother of the subject was the daughter of Frank and Mary (Beal) Huffmann, who came to America in 1852 and settled near King's Station, in Patoka township, where the father, in addition to farming, conducted a store and followed his trade of tailoring. These parents were of the Catholic faith, the father dying in Fort Branch in his sixty-sixth year and the mother reaching the extreme age of ninety.

John Yochum, the subject's father, came alone to America in 1849 and first lived in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he learned the wagonmaker's trade, following this vocation in the Queen City for three years, when he removed to Gibson county and located three miles south of Princeton on the State road, where he erected a shop and followed his trade until his retirement; he also engaging to some extent in farming. He died in 1895 and his widow removed to Princeton, where she now resides, she being a woman of great intelligence and remarkable memory.

To the subject's parents were born nine children, namely: Frank, now deceased, lived in Patoka township and married Indiana Arbuthnot, now also deceased. He was a farmer nearly all his life, but for many years was bookkeeper for the R. P. Moore Milling Company, of Princeton. He was the father of five children, Carl, Edith, Florence, Floyd and Frank; Joseph P.; August. William, Henry and John are deceased; Charles is a buggy manufacturer in Cincinnati; John is cashier of the American National Bank at Princeton and married Jessie Witherspoon; Annie Mary is the wife of Elza Wilkinson, of Princeton.

The subject received a common school education and lived at home until 1882, when he was united in marriage to Maggie Nestler, of Gibson county, the daughter of Casper and Frances Nestler, of Germany, who were early settlers in this community, where they spent the rest of their lives.

To the parents of the subject's wife were born four children, namely: Nicholas, deceased, was a saddler and lived at Fort Branch; Frank, also deceased, was engaged in the hardware business at Fort Branch; Maggie; Peter, deceased, was a saddler at Fort Branch.

To Mr. Yochum and his wife have been born four children, namely: Amy M. lives at home; Ada is the wife of Carl Mangrum, of Princeton; Lora and Esther are living at home. Amy and Lora graduated from the Princeton high school and then took up a course of training for the teacher's profession; Amy is attending Valparaiso University and Lora is at the State Normal School at Terre Haute. Both are now teaching, Amy in the Princeton schools and Lora in the high school at Haubstadt.

After the subject's marriage he engaged in agricultural pursuits three and a half miles southeast of Princeton, where he continued until August, 1906, when he purchased his beautiful home in Princeton. Here he has a fine residence at No. 528 East Broadway, which he has remodeled and made modern in every respect.

Mr. Yochum has been a great lover of the best blooded stock and has

devoted much of his attention to the breeding of fine registered horses, Poland China hogs, Barred Plymouth Rock chickens and Mammoth Bronze turkeys. His farm comprises one hundred and sixty acres in Patoka township.

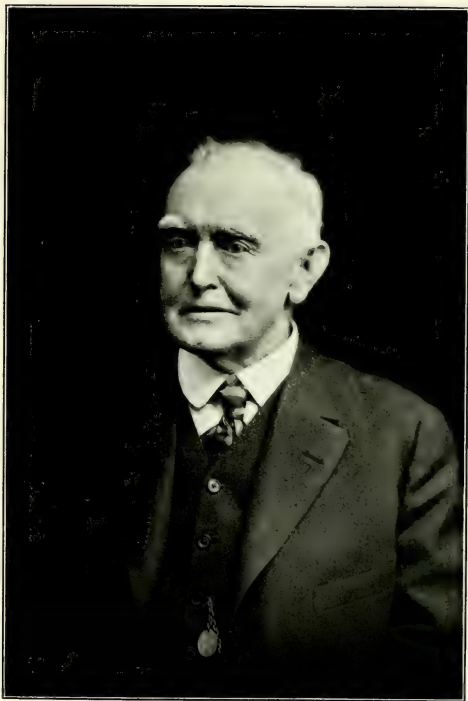
The subject has taken an active interest in the success of the Democratic party and served for six years as county commissioner, in which office he acquitted himself to the eminent satisfaction of his fellow citizens. Under the recently enacted law he has been appointed county superintendent of highways. Fraternally, he is an appreciative member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Lodge No. 64, of Princeton, while his religious affiliations are with the Cumberland Presbyterian church.

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### JAMES A. SPROWL.

An enumeration of those men of the present generation who have won honor and public recognition for themselves, and at the same time have honored the locality to which they belong, would be incomplete were there failure to make specific mention of him whose name forms the caption of this sketch. The qualities which have made him one of the prominent and successful men of Gibson county have also brought him the esteem of his fellow men, for his career has been one of well directed energy, strong determination and honorable methods.

James A. Sprowl is a native son of the Hoosier state, having been born about four and one-half miles east of Princeton, on July 28, 1840, and is the son of John O. and Margaret (McClellan) Sprowl, the former a native of Chester, South Carolina, and the latter of Greene county, Ohio. The subject's paternal grandfather, John Sprowl, was a native of Ireland who, after emigrating to the United States, located in South Carolina, where he remained until his marriage, when, about 1831, he came to Gibson county, settling in the Stormont neighborhood, about four miles east of Princeton, where he entered a tract of government land. He married Miss Orr, and to them were born nine children, six daughters and three sons, of whom the father of this subject was the oldest. Here John Sprowl remained until his death, which occurred in 1844. John O., father of the subject of this sketch, died August 6, 1841, when his son, James A., was about a year old. His widow afterwards became the wife of James Wilson and reared another family of children.



JAMES A. SPROWL.



The subject had two sisters, Rose Ann, who became the wife of A. J. Gillespie, of Monroe county, Indiana, and they moved to Kansas, where she reared a family of children. Joan became the wife of Thompson Spencer, and at her death left one child, Ann, who became the wife of Harry McClellan, of Dayton, Ohio. The subject also has a half-brother, Joseph S. Wilson, of Santa Rosa, California.

James A. Sprowl received his education in the country schools of his home community and was reared on the paternal farmstead under the direction of his money, until in 1861, when about twenty-one years of age, fired by his country's call for defenders, he enlisted in Company B, Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, in which he served valiantly and faithfully, re-enlisting in 1865 in the One Hundred Forty-third Regiment and serving until the close of the war. His record was a good one and one of which he is deservedly proud. Upon his return to the pursuits of peace Mr. Sprowl devoted himself to agricultural labor until 1873, when he removed to Princeton in order to give his children better educational advantages. In 1875 he was elected constable, serving at that six years, and at the end of that time he was appointed deputy sheriff, in which position he rendered efficient and satisfactory service for two terms, or eight years. In 1890 Mr. Sprowl was elected justice of the peace, in which office he has been continued by re-election until the present time. His record has been an enviable one, his decisions being marked by a sense of fairness and justice which has commended him to the higher courts of the county. A wide reader and keen observer of men and events, Mr. Sprowl is a well-informed man, keeping in close touch with current events and is well founded in the fundamental principles of jurisprudence. Congenial and unassuming, he has won a host of warm and loyal personal friends who esteem him highly because of his high character and genuine worth.

In 1867 James A. Sprowl was married to Martha L. Crow, who was born and reared in Gibson county, and to them have been born eight children, namely: John O., of Cleveland, Ohio; Carrie, the wife of W. J. Schumat, of Princeton; George N., of Princeton; Charles, of Lansing, Michigan; Nellie Margaret, the wife of Elwood Lichtenberger, of Mt. Vernon, Indiana; J. Arch, of Princeton, and Roy and Arthur, who are deceased.

Politically, Mr. Sprowl has given his life-long support to the Republican party and has been active in the ranks in his efforts to advance the interests of the organization. Politically, he is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, while his religious affiliation is with the United Presbyterian

church. His life-long residence in Gibson county, his upright life and mature judgment and the many favors which he has rendered have won for him the confidence and esteem of the people with whom he has so long mingled. He is imbued with the deepest and most helpful public spirit and is well fortified in his opinions on matters of public policy, giving of his best to the furthering of good government and being neglectful of no civic duty.

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### WILBUR F. FISHER.

The men most influential in promoting the advancement of society and in giving character to the times in which they live are two classes, to-wit, the men of study and the men of action. Whether we are more indebted for the improvement of the age to the one class or to the other is a question of honest difference in opinion; neither class can be spared and both should be encouraged to occupy their several spheres of labor and influence, zealously and without mutual distrust. In the following paragraphs are briefly outlined the leading facts and characteristics in the career of a gentleman who combines in his makeup the elements of the scholar and the energy of the public-spirited man of affairs. Devoted to the noble and humane work of teaching, he has made his influence felt in the school life of Gibson county and is not unknown to the wider educational circles of the state, occupying, as he does, a prominent place in his profession and standing high in the esteem of educators in other than his own particular field of endeavor.

Wilbur F. Fisher, superintendent of the schools of Gibson county, was born on July 21, 1876, at Patoka, this county, and is the son of John B. and Sarah Jennie (Marsh) Fisher, the father a native of Patoka and the mother of Mt. Carmel, Illinois. Both are now deceased. John B. Fisher was a farmer by vocation, and was a veteran of the Civil war, having served for thirty-nine months in the Seventeenth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He took part in the great battle of Chickamauga, and many others of almost equal prominence, and was with Sherman on his celebrated march to the sea and at the fall of Atlanta. He was a man of prominence in his community and served efficiently as a justice of the peace. His death occurred on November 1, 1910, having survived his wife a number of years, her death having occurred on March 26, 1883. They were the parents of the following children, Carrie, Herbert, Harry, deceased, Ralph, Roy, deceased, Wilbur, Henry and Chester, deceased.



Wilbur F. Fisher received his education in the common and the high schools of Patoka, and then was a student in Indiana University. He had taught some before entering the university, and after attending that institution he took up pedagogical work, in which he has during the subsequent years achieved a pronounced success, being numbered among the leading educators of southwestern Indiana. His work embraces six years in the common schools in White River township, this county, and ten years in high school work, four years as superintendent at Hazleton, Indiana, and six years as superintendent at Patoka. While incumbent of the latter position, Mr. Fisher was elected county superintendent of schools on June 5, 1911, and is the present incumbent of this position. As a teacher, Professor Fisher met with merited success and in his capacity as principal of schools he has met with a series of successes and advancements. He pursues his present calling with all the interest of an enthusiast, is thoroughly in harmony with the spirit of the work, and has the proper conception of the dignity of the profession to which his life and energies are so earnestly devoted. As superintendent of schools, his work has been characterized by greater efficiency and closer grading in the schools. He has done much to raise the general standing of education and scholarship in Gibson county, and his work stamps him as a man of unusual ability. A polished gentleman and possessing the traits of character necessary to insure success, the services thus far rendered bespeak for him a wider and more distinguished career of usefulness in years to come. Unlike so many of his calling who become narrow and pedantic, the Professor is distinctly a man of the times, broad and liberal in his views, and has the courage of his convictions on the leading public questions and issues upon which men and parties divide. He also keeps in touch with the trend of modern thought along its various lines and, being a man of scholarly and refined tastes, is acquainted with the literature of the world in general, while his familiarity with the more practical affairs of the day makes him feel at ease with all classes and conditions of people whom he may meet. Deeply interested in the work to which his life is devoted, Professor Fisher has not been unmindful of his duties as a citizen, and to this end takes an active part in public matters and lends his influence and support to all matters having for their object the advancement of the city and the intellectual and moral good of the people.

Wilbur F. Fisher was married October 25, 1907, to Bessie Spain, who was born near Hazleton, Indiana, the daughter of Byron S. Spain, a prominent citizen of that community, and to this union has been born one child,

Jennie Louise. Religiously, Professor Fisher is a member of the Presbyterian church, while, fraternally, he is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons. He is a Democrat of the Bryan type and takes a deep interest in the success of his party. Personally, Professor Fisher is a popular man, possessing to a marked degree the characteristics which win and retain warm friendships. He is a member of one of the old pioneer families of Gibson county, his paternal grandfather, Jonathan Fisher, being one of the first settlers of Patoka, and here the family early became prominent and influential in local affairs. Jonathan Fisher engaged extensively in the pork packing business and ran a flat boat down the Mississippi river to New Orleans, Professor Fisher's father assisting him in this work. He married Polly Milburn and reared a family of eight children. From such sterling stock, the subject of this sketch inherited qualities which have enabled him to gain success, namely, perseverance, industry, and the strictest ideals of integrity and honesty. By his kindness and courtesy he has won an abiding place in the esteem of his fellow citizens and by his intelligence, energy and abiding spirit has made his influence felt among his associates during his residence in this county, and as a result occupies no small place in the esteem of the public.

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### JUDGE WILLIAM M. LAND.

Judge William M. Land, at the time of his death on April 19, 1904, was the Nestor of the Princeton bar and one of the most prominent jurists in southern Indiana. He was born in Johnson township, Gibson county, Indiana, August 28, 1827, making his age at death nearly seventy-seven years. He was a son of Abraham and Sarah Ann (Edwards) Land. His grandfather was a colonel in the Colonial army during the war of the Revolution. His father was a soldier in the war of 1812. Abraham Land was a South Carolinian, but married in Tennessee and came to live in Gibson county, near Fort Branch, in 1827. To this union were born four sons and four daughters, Judge Land being the oldest of these children. The father was a cooper by trade, but became the pioneer miller of Gibson county, devoting his time to milling, although he lived on a farm. He served for many years as a justice of the peace and was held in high regard. His death occurred in 1844, and his wife followed him in 1864.

William M. Land began his education in a log school house and in his

youth attended the schools of his neighborhood. At the age of twenty, in January, 1848, he enlisted for service in the Mexican war as a member of Company I, Fourteenth United States Infantry, continuing with this command until honorably discharged in August, 1848. Returning home, he attended school for a time and then engaged in teaching for twelve years. The oldest of eight children, he assumed the management of the farm and was the mainstay of the family until the children grew to maturity. While quite young, Judge Land was called upon to serve in positions of public trust. From 1853 until 1860 he served successively as township assessor, county commissioner and township trustee, and while acting as trustee he erected the first frame school house in the township.

Shortly after returning from the Mexican war he took up the study of law, devoting spare hours to a diligent reading of Blackstone. He was admitted to the Gibson county bar in February, 1857, and was the oldest living member up to the time of his death. In 1864 he moved to Princeton so he might engage more extensively in the practice of his profession. His ability, honesty and constant application resulted in a most successful career. He had a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the science of jurisprudence, and his argument of a case rested more on the clear, decisive truth and logic than upon oratorical effects. He was always devoted to his clients' interests and went to the depth of every legal point at issue. Although years crept upon him, his disposition for work and activity made it a pleasure to continue the practice until the time came when physical ailments precluded a further pursuit of business. During his career no less than nine or ten of the Princeton attorneys read law in his office.

Judge Land served as deputy district attorney, also as attorney for the city of Princeton. He became a member of the board of education in 1868 and during his term the first brick school house in Princeton was erected. In July, 1872, he was appointed to fill the unexpired term as judge of the common pleas court for the first district of Indiana, composed of the counties of Gibson, Vanderburg, Posey and Warrick. On different occasions he served as special judge of the circuit courts of the above mentioned counties, and acted as judge of the superior court of Vanderburg county. Few cases tried under him were ever appealed and not one reversed by a higher court. This record indicates his superior ability as a jurist and his successful career in the field of law.

Judge Land was married in 1850 to Sarah E. J. Harmon, of Posey

county, who died in 1888, and to this union there were born six children, of whom the following survived their father: Oma, the wife of James B. Gamble, who is represented elsewhere in this work; Marion, Henry, Jessie and George.

Judge Land was a public-spirited citizen and encouraged public enterprise. He was especially interested in educational matters and aided much in the advancement of school interests in the city and county. In 1868 he became a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and took a deep interest in this order. In the order he held many high places and was a past grand.

During his life Judge Land was a member of three political parties. He voted with the Democracy early in life, but was a Republican from 1862 until 1884, when he took up the Prohibition cause and became a leader in the ranks of that party. He was earnest in the cause of temperance and his advocacy was fraught with much good for the cause he espoused.

Judge Land recognized in the worship of God a privileged duty of man and his life was lived along lines consistent with Christianity. He was a faithful member of the General Baptist church at Enon.

Judge Land was of literary bent, although this phase of his life was not as publicly known as was his ability as a lawyer and jurist. He possessed one of the largest libraries in the county and he was never so happy as when among his books. Among his many talents was that of verse writing, and his productions in verse are meritorious and deserve a wide circulation. These poems were carefully typewritten on pages of uniform size and collected in two books. The title of one, "Voyage to Waterloo, and Other Poems;" the other he called "The White Stone King," and other poems. The poems are on varied subjects and the genius of the author has given them a smoothness in style and a depth of thought which mark their excellence.

In the death of Judge Land, Gibson county lost an eminently useful man. He had ability and, what was more important, the disposition to use it at all times for the advancement of good morals and right principles. As a Christian gentleman, he was a model for the rising generation, and as a public-spirited citizen he had few peers in the community. There was in him a weight of character, a native sagacity, a far-seeing judgment and a fidelity of purpose that commanded the respect of all, but greater than these was his unswerving integrity, and "an honest man is the noblest work of God."

## HARVEY MILBURN.

Specific mention is made in the following paragraphs of one of the worthy citizens of Gibson county, Indiana, one who has figured in the growth and development of the educational and financial interests of this favored locality, and whose interests have been identified with its progress, contributing in a definite measure in his particular spheres of action to the well-being of the community in which he resides and to the advancement of its normal and legitimate growth. Earnest purpose and tireless energy, combined with mature judgment and every-day common sense, have been among his most prominent characteristics and he has merited the respect and esteem which are accorded him by all who know him.

Harvey Milburn was born August 3, 1870, in Lineus county, Missouri, the son of Augustus and Isabelle (Devin) Milburn. The father was born in Indiana, where he spent his life in farming in Gibson county, his death occurring there on August 2, 1909. The mother died on November 2, 1889. To the parents of the subject five children were born, namely: Preston is engaged in the general mercantile business and lives in Patoka; Alex D. is deceased; Harvey; Sue married Oscar Witherspoon, a farmer of Gibson county; Mary married D. R. Trippet, a lumberman, and lives in Memphis, Tennessee. Augustus Milburn was allied politically with the Republican party, but never aspired to public office.

A thorough education was granted Harvey Milburn, the subject of this biographical review. He attended the common schools, then graduated from the high school at Patoka, and took the course in teacher training, supplementing this with a course in the State University at Bloomington, Indiana. At the conclusion of his studies he engaged in the profession of an educator, teaching in the schools of Gibson county for fifteen years and was principal of the South school for seven years.

On May 28, 1906, Mr. Milburn forsook pedagogical pursuits and entered the American National Bank as assistant cashier, which position he is yet filling in a praiseworthy manner, his genial personality and accommodating manners having won for him a wide circle of friends and been of inestimable value to the institution which he so capably serves.

In December, 1898, the subject of this review was married to Ethel May Witherspoon, daughter of James C. and Fanny (King) Witherspoon. The father, who died in February, 1910, was an old settler in Gibson county, where he engaged in agriculture all his days. To the subject and wife have

been born two children, Isabelle, living at home, and Lucile, who died in her seventh year, on October 30, 1909.

The Republican party has constantly claimed Mr. Milburn's suffrage, while, fraternally, he is an earnest and appreciative member of the Masonic order. A worthy member of the First Presbyterian church, Mr. Milburn takes a deep interest in its welfare and contributes liberally to its support.

Personally, the subject is a man whom it is a pleasure to meet, jovial, agreeable, hospitable and a well informed man. The Milburn family bears an excellent reputation throughout the county and takes first rank in the citizenship of this favored section of the Hoosier state.

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### DAVID INGLE, SR.

Indiana has been especially honored in the character and career of her active men of industry. In every section have been found men born to leadership in the various vocations, men who have dominated because of their superior intelligence, natural endowment and force of character. It is always profitable to study such lives, weigh their motives and hold up their achievements as incentives to greater activity and higher excellence on the part of others. These reflections are suggested by the career of one who forged his way to the front ranks of the favored few, and who, by a strong inherent force and superior business ability, directed and controlled by intelligence and judgment of a high order, stood for over a quarter of a century one of the leading men of his section of the state. No citizen in southwestern Indiana achieved more honorable mention or occupied a more conspicuous place in the public eye than David Ingle, Sr., whose earthly career is ended, but whose influence still pervades the lives of men, the good which he did having been too far-reaching to be measured in metes and bounds. In this age of colossal enterprise and marked intellectual energy, the prominent and successful men are those whose ambition and abilities lead them into large undertakings and to assume the responsibilities and labors of their respective fields of endeavor. Success is methodical and consecutive and though the rise of Mr. Ingle may have seemed rapid, it will be found that his success was attained by the same normal methods and means—determined application of mental and physical resources along a rightly defined line. To offer in a work of this province an adequate resume of the career of this good man would be impossible, but,



David Engle





with others of those who have conserved the civic and commercial progress of this section of Indiana, we may well note the more salient points that marked his life and labors. He was long a dominating power in public utilities as well as extensive private operations of a varied nature. He achieved a position as a substantial capitalist, gaining his success through legitimate and worthy means and he stood as an admirable type of the self-made man.

David Ingle, Sr., was born on December 14, 1851, at Evansville, Indiana, and was a son of John and Isabella (Davidson) Ingle, the father a native of England and the mother of Scotland. The subject's paternal grandfather, John Ingle, Sr., was postmaster at Inglesfield, north of Evansville, under President Andrew Jackson. He was a successful farmer, well-known justice of the peace and a very prominent and influential man in his community. John Ingle, Jr., was a well-known lawyer in Evansville and was successful in many other enterprises, having built and surveyed the Evansville & Terre Haute railroad, of which corporation he became the first president. He remained a citizen of Evansville until his death, which occurred in 1875, at the age of sixty-one years. David Ingle received only a public school education in the schools at Evansville and on leaving school he obtained employment in a hardware store in that city. A few years later he went to work for his father in the Ingleside mine, which was the oldest mine in Indiana, and which had been opened in 1850 by some members of the Ingle family, and which had evidently come into the possession of John Ingle, Jr. After leaving the mine David Ingle became freight agent for the Merchants Dispatch fast freight lines, and in this capacity became somewhat acquainted with the details of railroad business. He was thus engaged until 1880, when he came to Oakland City and opened the old Ingleton coal mine just across the line in Pike county, and which at that time was the terminus of the railroad. The mine was a success from the start, though somewhat hampered in its operations because of the fact that the railroad company could not supply cars fast enough to ship the product. He was the pioneer in the coal industry in this section, and for many years operated this mine and then, going further east, opened other mines. He operated on a large scale on his own account, but in 1890 he organized the Ayrshire Coal Company, which corporation branched out and opened and operated seven other plants, only two of which are now being operated, the others having been worked out. Of this company David Ingle was president up to the time of his death, which occurred on October 18, 1909. He did not confine his activities to this immediate locality, but was heavily interested in other mines over the state, though he did not turn his

attention to any extent into other lines of business. Strong mental powers, invincible courage and a determined purpose that hesitated at no opposition so entered into his composition as to render him a dominant factor in the business world and a leader of men. He was essentially a man of affairs, of sound judgment, keen discernment, rare acumen, far-seeing in what he undertook and the enterprises to which he addressed himself resulted in liberal financial returns, his success in life being the legitimate fruitage of consecutive effort directed and controlled by good judgment and correct principles.

Politically, David Ingle was a staunch supporter of the Republican party, but did not take a very active part in public affairs, his private business concerns demanding his undivided attention. Religiously, he was for many years a member of the Presbyterian church at Oakland City, being one of the prime movers in the erection of the present magnificent church building at Oakland City. He was for many years a member of the board of elders and treasurer of the church board.

On February 2, 1875, David Ingle, Sr., was married to Fannie Burbank, the daughter of Bradford Burbank, of Evansville, and to them were born the following children, David and William D., who are mentioned in later paragraphs of this sketch; Frances, the wife of William Bebb, who is a scientist and college professor in Chicago; Katherine, the wife of M. K. Mitchell, also an educator in Chicago. Personally, Mr. Ingle was a man of great force of character and was usually found in the lead when any movement was on foot for the betterment of his community. In his business career, as well as his private life, no word of suspicion was ever breathed against him. His actions were always the result of careful and conscientious thought, and when once convinced that he was right no suggestion of policy or personal profit could swerve him from the course decided upon. His career was rounded in its beautiful simplicity, for he did his full duty in all the relations of life and it is said today that no man in the county in which he lived enjoyed to a greater extent the affection and the confidence of the people more than did Mr. Ingle.

David Ingle, Jr., who succeeded his father as president of the Ayrshire Coal Company, was born on October 5, 1875, at Evansville, Indiana, and received his education in the public and high school at Oakland City, supplementing his studies by a course in the Rose Polytechnic Institute at Terre Haute, where he was graduated in civil engineering in 1897. Then for a year he was employed in the engineering department of the Evansville & Terre Haute railroad, at the end of which period he became associated with his father in the Ayrshire Coal Company, with which he has since been identified.

On October 5, 1904, David Ingle, Jr., was married to Effie Hughes, the daughter of R. P. Hughes, a successful and well-known merchant of Evansville, and to them has been born a son, David. Fraternally, Mr. Ingle is a member of the Masonic order, having attained the degree of Knight Templar and belonging to the commandery at Princeton.

William D. Ingle, second son of David Ingle, Sr., received his education in the public schools and Rose Polytechnic Institute, where he graduated in 1903 in the electrical engineering department. After completing his studies he became connected with the St. Louis Transit Company, with which he remained for about three years, and was then for four years in Evansville, where he had charge of the old Ingle mines. Since then he has been connected with the Ayrshire Coal Company as secretary, and has been active in the management and advancement of this enterprise.

On August 30, 1911, Mr. Ingle married Grace Ross, the daughter of W. W. Ross, of Evansville, and to them have been born two children, William and Kenneth. Religiously, Mr. Ingle is a member of the Presbyterian church, in which he is an elder and in the various activities of which he is deeply interested.

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#### GEORGE C. BURTON.

It is proper to judge of the success of a man's life by the estimation in which he is held by his fellow citizens. They see him at work, in his family circle, in church, hear his views on public questions, observe the operation of his code of morals, witness how he conducts himself in all the relations of society and civilization, and are therefore competent to judge of his merits and demerits. After a long course of years of such daily observation, it would be out of the question for his neighbors not to know the truth concerning his worth, for, as has been said, "actions speak louder than words." In this connection it is not too much to say that the subject of this sketch, who has long since passed to his reward, passed a life of unusual honor, that he was industrious and had the confidence of all who had the pleasure of his friendship.

George T. Burton was born November 12, 1833, in London, England, the son of Robert and Rosamond Burton, and died August 6, 1909, in Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana. Robert Burton and children emigrated to America when the subject was a boy and, in 1846, settled in Gibson county.

Indiana, southeast of Princeton. Here they acquired one hundred and sixty acres of land, to which they subsequently added an additional tract of one hundred and twenty acres. The subject's mother died in England. Robert Burton was a piano tuner in England, but on his arrival in Gibson county he turned to agriculture, which he followed the rest of his days, his death occurring on the home farm. The four children of the subject's parents were: Robert, who died in Princeton; George C.; Sarah married Jasper Heisy and both are now deceased; Lizzie died on September 5, 1913.

George C. Burton had attended the common schools in London, England, before his parents brought him to America, and on his arrival here he lived with his father, helping in the work on the place and continuing the operation of the home farm after his father's death. In 1901 the subject retired from active agricultural life and moved to Princeton, where he spent the remainder of his days in peaceful and honorable retirement.

On August 10, 1865, Mr. Burton was united in marriage with Nancy Geise, who was born in Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1846, a daughter of William and Mary (Groves) Geise, he a native of Germany and she of Ohio. The father of Mrs. Burton came to the United States when quite a young man and located in Indianapolis. He was a baker by trade. In 1852 he removed to Gibson county and secured a farm in Patoka township, which he operated until his death, in his sixtieth year. His wife passed to her reward at the age of seventy-three. The father was a Lutheran in his religious belief, while the mother belonged to the Baptists. To the parents of Mrs. Burton were born eight children, namely: Mary is the wife of Henry White and lives north of Princeton; Nancy, now Mrs. Burton; Sophia married Charles Heisz, of Patoka township; August, an expert machinist, lives at Oakland City, Indiana; William is a retired farmer at Princeton; Christina is the wife of Fred Hasselbrink, a farmer in Patoka township; Henrietta, deceased, was the wife of John Keifer; Lizzie is unmarried and lives in Indianapolis, Indiana.

To the subject and wife were born seven children, as follows: Rosamond married Frank Stormont, proprietor of a moving picture show at Princeton; George married Ruth Milburn and is superintendent of a coal mine; Ronald is operating the old home place in Patoka township and married Nina Williams; Jesse is a painter in Princeton and married Thursa McCullough; Ralph married Susan Bremer and is employed by the Independent Telephone Company at Princeton; Mabel is the wife of Burt McCullough, a restaurant keeper in Princeton; Harry, who is unmarried and

lives at the home place, is a member of the firm of Burton & Mason, painters and paper hangers.

In his political belief, Mr. Burton gave his support to the Democratic party, while, fraternally, he was a charter member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Lodge No. 64, at Princeton, in which he took an absorbing interest. For over fifty-three years he was one of the most active members of that body, being a regular attendant, rain or shine, and exemplifying in his daily life the beautiful and worthy precepts of that order. He had held all the offices in the lodge, being its secretary for many years, and was an attendant at many of the grand lodge sessions. At his funeral the ceremonies were conducted by his fraternal brothers and he was laid to rest in the Odd Fellows' cemetery at Princeton.

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### WILLARD A. DILL.

The gentleman to whom attention is directed in this review has attained pronounced prestige by reason of native and acquired ability, as also because of his prominence in official position and high standing in the domain of private citizenship. He takes a deep and abiding interest in everything pertaining to the material advancement of the town and township and every enterprise intended to promote the advancement of Gibson county is sure to receive his hearty support. He is rated as one of the progressive citizens of the community in which he lives and the high respect in which he is held by all classes of people is a deserving compliment to an intelligent, broad-minded and most worthy man.

Willard A. Dill, the present efficient assessor of Gibson county, was born on December 1, 1871, in Columbia township, near Oakland City, this county, and is the son of William M. and Martha E. (Harper) Dill, the former a native of Tennessee and the latter of Missouri. William M. Dill came to Gibson county when about seven years old with his father, William Dill, who settled on a tract of land southwest of Oakland City, to the cultivation of which he devoted his time. His son, William M., was also reared to the life of a farmer, but was also employed for about eight years in the milling business in Illinois. He was a man of industrious habits and splendid character, enjoying the respect of all who knew him, and his death occurred in November, 1913. His wife had died on July 13, 1909. They were the

parents of ten children, of whom six are living, namely: William R., who is blind, lives with the subject of this sketch; Frank, of Evansville, Indiana; Willard A., the subject; Mrs. Sarah E. Peck, of Owensville, Indiana; Mrs. Louisa J. Whiting, of North Platte, Nebraska, and Mrs. Lulu Ellenbush, of Evansville, Indiana.

Willard A. Dill was reared on a farm, receiving his education in the public schools of Patoka township, to which locality his parents had removed when he was about eight years old. After graduating from the common schools in 1892 he attended one term of school at Mt. Vernon, Indiana, and one at Cynthiana, and then went to Princeton Normal University, from which he graduated July 31, 1896. He also attended one term at Oakland City College. He then engaged in teaching school, in which he was successfully engaged up to 1904, in all twelve years, achieving a splendid reputation as a teacher and enjoying the confidence alike of parent and pupils. In 1904 he was elected trustee of Patoka township by a majority of one thousand sixty, serving efficiently and satisfactorily in this position for four years. He then returned to teaching for two years, and in 1910 he was elected county assessor on the Republican ticket, being one of two candidates of that political faith who were elected that year. The duties of the office of assessor are, of course, not exacting, but Mr. Dill has so far met the expectations of those who chose him for office, and has proven a popular and efficient public official.

In 1902 Mr. Dill was married to Rhoda E. Wilhite, a native of Patoka township, Gibson county, Indiana, and to them have been born two children, Raymond Paul and Venus Silba.

Religiously, Mr. Dill is an earnest and faithful member of the Christian church of Princeton, as well as being president of the board of trustees. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, belonging to Lodge No. 64, and Encampment No. 55, at Princeton. He is also a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of Princeton, Court No. 43, Tribe of Ben-Hur, and of Lodge No. 1150, Knights and Ladies of Security, being financier of the latter lodge. He has been successful in his affairs and owns a valuable little truck farm one-half mile out of Princeton, south on Main street, where he makes his home and where he enjoys life. Crippled since the age of thirteen years, as a result of an attack of white swelling and compelled to walk with the assistance of crutches, Mr. Dill deserves much credit for the success which he has attained in the pursuit of his affairs, and also for the care and attention which he gave his aged

parents when they were in advanced years. Genial and unassuming in his relations with his fellowmen, he has so ordered his activities as to command the respect of all who know him and he is eminently deserving of a place among the representative men of his vicinity.

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### HARVEY HARMON.

Among the lawyers who have been successful in their profession in Gibson county is Harvey Harmon, the present prosecuting attorney of this county. He was born August 12, 1873, in Gibson county, Indiana, the son of John W. and Julia A. (Pruitt) Harmon. John W. Harmon's ancestors were among the very first settlers in Gibson county, the family having located in that community near the year 1812. Harvey Harmon's father was born and lived his entire life in that county, having been engaged in the mercantile and milling business for forty years. To the subject's parents were born two children, Harvey, and a sister, Grace, who married R. H. Barnett. The father, John W., is still living at Owensville, while the mother died at the old home place.

The early education of Harvey Harmon was secured in the common schools, this being supplemented by a course in the high school, from which latter place he graduated in 1892, after which he attended the law school of the State University at Bloomington, Indiana, finishing his studies there in 1899. After his graduation there he was employed for some time as an adjuster for the Deering Harvester Company of Chicago, subsequently engaging in the practice of law in Princeton, where he has continued since. In 1913 Mr. Harmon was elected prosecuting attorney of the sixty-sixth judicial circuit of Indiana and is now filling that office.

In 1900 Mr. Harmon was united in marriage to Nora McGinnis, daughter of James and Melissa (Mauck) McGinnis, the father a hotel man at Owensville, this county, for twenty years. Mrs. Harmon's mother is now living with subject and wife, while the father is dead. To Mr. Harmon and wife have been born four children, Julia, John, Mary and Martha, all of whom are living with their parents.

In his political views, Mr. Harmon is an active worker in the Democratic party, while fraternally he is affiliated with the Masons, in which order he is a Knight Templar; he is deputy grand president of the Fraternal Order



of Eagles of the state, and is also a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Improved Order of Red Men.

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### ALFRED S. FORD.

The success of men in business or any vocation depends upon character as well as upon knowledge, it being a self-evident proposition that honesty is the best policy. Business demands confidence and where that is lacking business ends. In every community some men are known for their upright lives, strong common sense and moral worth rather than for their wealth or political standing. Their neighbors and acquaintances respect them and the younger generation heeds their examples. They win their way through untiring energy and right principles and hold the respect of their fellow men by their genuine worth. Among the men of Gibson county, Indiana, who have won for themselves success in their chosen line of endeavor, is the one whose name appears at the top of this sketch.

Alfred S. Ford first saw the light of day on February 14, 1835, in Bedfordshire, England, the parents being James and Jane (Battison) Ford. Both were natives of England. When the subject of this sketch was about nine years old (in 1844) the family emigrated to this country, locating near Mt. Carmel, Illinois. Not being satisfied with the site first selected, they came to Princeton, Indiana, in the fall of 1845, where they resided the remainder of their lives. There were six children in the family originally, but of these only one, the subject of this sketch, survives. The father started the first nursery in Princeton, in 1851, which he continued to operate until his death in 1882.

Alfred S. Ford received most of his education in the common schools of Princeton, and at an early age was regularly apprenticed to a carpenter. He was faithful in the discharge of his duties and made rapid advancement in his chosen trade. In due time, through careful attention to the various phases of his line, he advanced to being a builder and contractor in his own right.

Early in the Civil war, wishing to show his loyalty to his adopted country, Mr. Ford enlisted, in August, 1862, in Company A, Eightieth Regiment Indiana Volunteers, and so faithfully did he discharge his assumed obligations that he was mustered out of service in 1865 as first sergeant. He was in active service all during his enlistment and was wounded in the





ALFRED S. FORD.



breast by a shell at Resaca. Was in the battle of Nashville and Wilmington, and went all through the Atlanta campaign. After the close of the war, he returned to Princeton and resumed his contracting business. In 1880 he bought the lumber business and planing mill which he now owns. Previous to his going into the army, he was on the town board for two terms.

In May, 1858, Mr. Ford was united in marriage to Elizabeth A. Rice, a native of Butler county, Kentucky. To them were born seven children, six of whom are living, namely: Lucy J., wife of Elmer E. Sharp, of Greencastle, Indiana; Frank, residing at Waterloo, Iowa; Katie, who resides at home; George, a resident of Fort Branch, Indiana; Nellie, at home, and Dale A., who is associated with his father. Mrs. Ford's parents were Washington and Lucy (McReynolds) Rice, natives of Virginia. Her father, who had been a soldier in the war of 1812, was a pioneer of Gibson county. He was a school teacher for many years and was serving as justice of the peace at the time of his death, in 1854. He was a public spirited man and a Whig in politics. His wife passed away in 1839. They were the parents of two children, Thomas, a school teacher, who died in 1856, and Elizabeth, Mrs. Ford, who was born in 1837.

Mr. Ford has always cast his influence with the Republican party. He has been a consistent man in all he has undertaken and his career in all the relations of life has been utterly without pretense. He is held in the highest esteem by all who know him and is in every respect an excellent and enterprising citizen, one of that admirable body of men who can truly style themselves "self-made."

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### CHARLES S. SCULL.

The gentleman to a review of whose life the reader's attention is most respectfully directed is recognized as one of the energetic, well known business men of Gibson county, who, by his enterprise and progressive methods, has contributed in a material way to the commercial advancement of the locality where he lives. In the course of an honorable career he has been successful in the manifold lines to which his efforts have been directed and, enjoying distinctive prestige among the representative men of his community, it is eminently proper that attention be called to his achievements and due credit be accorded to his worth as an enterprising citizen.

Charles S. Scull, the son of Aaron and Miranda (Beach) Scull, was born in Wapello, Iowa, February 14, 1860. Aaron Scull was a native of

New Jersey, while his wife was born in Indiana. Aaron Scull was reared in his native state and came to Indiana in early life, where he met his wife, and after their marriage they moved to Iowa, where he followed the occupation of a carpenter and builder the remainder of his life. To Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Scull were born nine children, five of whom are living: Ancil B.; William L.; Charles S., the immediate subject of this sketch; Mrs. Ida B. Crawley, who is a teacher; Mrs. Nellie Barnes, of Joliet, Illinois.

Charles S. Scull secured his education in the common schools of his neighborhood where he was reared in Iowa and has supplemented this by reading and observation of men and events. He was reared to the life of a farmer, but later in life he became interested in the sewing machine business and for a period of ten years was an agent for one of the large sewing machine companies in the state of Kentucky. Subsequently he came to Princeton, Indiana, where he engaged in the same line of business for two years, after which he bought the furniture store of A. W. Lagou in 1893, and he still owns and operates this establishment. He carries a large and well selected line of furniture and house furnishings and has for more than twenty years enjoyed his full share of the popular patronage. He possesses marked business ability and his courteous treatment of his patrons and evident desire to please all who come into his store has won him a large acquaintance throughout the county. On January 13, 1914, Mr. Scull moved into his new store, the old Wright property, on the east side of the public square. Here he had erected a three-story and basement, pressed brick building, arranged to meet the demands of his business, the conveniences including an electric passenger elevator. Mr. Scull is an active member of the Commercial Club and the Retail Merchants Association of Princeton.

Mr. Scull was married in 1901 to Sarah Whiting, the daughter of Capt. C. C. Whiting and wife, who are referred to elsewhere in this work, and to this union there has been born one son, Charles W., whose birth occurred on March 3, 1904, and who is attending the public schools of Princeton, his father intending to give him the best education which the public schools afford. Politically, Mr. Scull is a Republican and has always voted for the candidates of that party. He has held no public offices, nor has ever been a seeker for a place of preferment, feeling that all of his attention could be more profitably directed toward his business. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and also of the time-honored order of Free and Accepted Masons, and takes an active and appreciative interest in these fraternal organizations. Mr. Scull bears the proud American title of self-made man and is, in the

most liberal sense of the term, the architect of his own fortunes. He may well feel a sense of pride in his achievement and the honorable position to which he has attained among the enterprising and successful citizens of the county and city in which for so many years he has been actively identified.

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### W. E. CRISWELL.

It is a well authenticated fact that success comes as the result of legitimate and well applied energy, unflagging determination and perseverance in a course of action when once decided upon. She is never known to smile upon the idler or dreamer and she never courts the loafer, only those who have diligently sought her favor being crowned with her blessings. In tracing the history of the influential citizen of Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, whose name forms the caption of this review, it is plainly seen that the success which he enjoys has been won by commendable qualities and it is also his personal worth that has gained for him the high esteem of those who know him.

W. E. Criswell is a native son of the old Hoosier state, being born in Warrick county, and is a son of J. J. and Sarah E. (McSwain) Criswell, both also natives of Indiana. J. J. Criswell has for many years been engaged in real estate business in Princeton, where he still maintains an office, and is numbered among the substantial citizens of that enterprising city. W. E. Criswell received a good common school education, completing his studies in the high school, after which he started out in life on his own account as a clerk in a clothing store. Then he went to Indianapolis, where for six years he followed a like occupation, and in 1906 came to Princeton and entered into a partnership with Mr. Welborn, under the firm name of Welborn & Criswell, and they are today carrying one of the largest and most complete stocks of clothing and gents' furnishing goods in Princeton, the stock being conservatively valued at twenty thousand dollars. A large share of the credit for this splendid success is due to the untiring effort and sound business judgment of Mr. Criswell, who has devoted himself assiduously to the building up of his trade, and who by his uniform courtesy to the patrons of his store and his insistence upon courteous treatment on the part of his employees, has made a favorable impression upon those who have patronized him. Mr. Criswell, though among the younger business men of Princeton,

has also gained an enviable reputation among his fellow business men, by whom he is held in high esteem.

Fraternally, W. E. Criswell is a member of the Tribe of Ben-Hur, the Knights of Pythias and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, while, socially, he holds membership in the Marion Club, of Indianapolis. Genial and unassuming in manner, Mr. Criswell easily makes friends and throughout this community, where he is well known, his friends are as the number of his acquaintances.

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### JOSHUA S. SISSON.

In the respect that is accorded to men who have fought their own way to success through unfavorable environment, we find an unconscious recognition of the intrinsic worth of a character which can not only endure so rough a test, but gain new strength through the discipline. The gentleman to whom the biographer now calls the reader's attention was not favored by inherited wealth nor the assistance of influential friends, but in spite of this, by perseverance, industry and wise economy, he has attained a comfortable station in life, making his influence felt for good in his community and because of his honorable career in the education of the youth of the county and because of the fact that he is numbered among those patriotic sons of the North who assisted in saving the Union's integrity in the dark days of the sixties, he is eminently worthy a place in this book.

Joshua S. Sisson, respected citizen of Princeton and retired school teacher and farmer of Gibson county, Indiana, than whom no man in his county is more deserving of mention in a book of this character, was born January 8, 1846, in Switzerland county, Indiana, the son of John C., a native of Gallatin county, Kentucky, and Lydda Elizabeth (Stephenson) Sisson, a native of North Carolina.

In the paternal line, the subject's ancestral history is as follows: (I) Richard Sisson, who was born in 1608 and died in 1684. (II) George Sisson, eldest son of Richard Sisson, married Sarah Lawton, and of their children, the ninth in order of birth was (III) Thomas, who was the father of (IV) Giles. The latter's wife bore the name of Elizabeth and among their children was (V) John, who was a soldier in the war of the Revolution. His wife bore the name of Alcha and their twelfth child was (VI) Benjamin.

Benjamin Sisson was twice married, first to Hannah Cranston, and to them was born a daughter, Hannah. His second wife was Serviah Pendleton and to their union were born the following children: Mary, Ann, Ira, Julia A., Lucinda, (VII) John Crandall, Nancy A. and Eli.

John Crandall Sisson, who was a farmer, grew to manhood and married in Kentucky and came to Indiana and purchased a sixty-five-acre farm back from Vevay, Indiana. There they made their home until 1858, when they loaded their possessions on flat boats on the Ohio river, went through the falls at Louisville, Kentucky, and arrived at Leavenworth, Crawford county, Indiana, where they located two and one-half miles back from the river on what is known as the Milltown road. Here he purchased a farm of sixty-five acres and on this they made their home until after the close of the Civil war. In 1879 they went to Knox county, Indiana, locating east of Hazelton, where he died on June 30, 1899. He would have been eighty-two years old on August 3d following. His first wife died in April, 1863, and he married for his second wife Sarah McClure, who died on February 18, 1911. John C. Sisson, while taking no active interest in politics, was a man who kept posted on such affairs. Originally he had been a Democrat, but later joined the ranks of the Republican party. He was a consistent member of the United Brethren church and a man well liked and respected. To him by his first wife were born twelve children, as follows: William Benjamin, who died in 1909, served throughout the Civil war. He enlisted as a private in Company E, Thirty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was made second lieutenant. The Thirty-eighth saw considerable active service and he was with it in the various battles. He was also a teacher in the public schools for many years. Hannah Elizabeth who died in 1910, was the wife of Joseph B. Glenn and lived in Switzerland county, Indiana. Henry Crandall was a farmer who lived in Warsaw, Kentucky. (VIII) Joshua Stanley is the immediate subject of this sketch. Zachary Taylor was also a soldier who served throughout the Civil war, a member of Company E, Thirty-eighth Regiment, in the ranks of the privates. He was a shoemaker in his earlier life and for many years has been engaged in farming at Texarkana, Texas. David Harrison enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-sixth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, at the tender age of fifteen, after having been rejected several times on account of his youth. He served six months. After the close of the war he taught school for thirty-five years, first in Knox county and later in Gibson county. He is now a rural mail carrier, running out of Deckard Station, Indiana, for the last

eleven years. Winfield Scott was a school teacher in Gibson county for several years. He has also had a drug store at Hazleton, Indiana, for the past ten years and is also a rural mail carrier out of Hazleton. He has been active in the ranks of the Republican party and served as postmaster at Hazleton for two terms and has been a member of the Republican central committee. Mary Katherine was the next in order of birth. George Marion died at the age of eighteen years, in 1873. He was a promising young man who had fitted himself for the vocation of teaching. Andrew Cleveland, who lives at Hazleton, Indiana, was also a school teacher for a time and later associated with his brother Winfield Scott in the drug business. He now has two general stores and handles hardware and drugs at Deckard Station and Hazleton, having with him his son Raymond. He also has a drug store at Hazleton. Jane Ellen, deceased, was the wife of John Early. The youngest daughter of the family, Louisa Ann, is dead. She was the wife of James Holt.

In addition to this large and enterprising family, John C. Sisson had several children by his second wife, namely: Rebecca Belle, wife of Thomas Horne, residing east of Hazleton; Nancy Alice, who died at the age of fourteen years; Samuel Francis, who lives north of Princeton and is rural mail carrier on route number six out of Princeton. He married Pearl Montgomery; John Lewis is a farmer and also carpenter and lives at Union, Indiana. His wife was Sallie Hoover. Edward Emanuel is also a farmer and carpenter and resides at Hazleton. His wife was Lizzie Wolfe.

Joshua S. Sisson received his elementary education in the common schools near Leavenworth, Indiana, but received his higher education after the close of the war. On October 6, 1863, he enlisted in Company H, Thirtieth Indiana Cavalry, at Leavenworth, Crawford county, and was with the Army of the Cumberland. He contracted measles while in service which cost him the sight of his right eye and impaired the vision of the left, so that it is with difficulty he is able to see. He served until the fall of 1864, when he received his honorable discharge.

In 1867 Mr. Sisson commenced teaching school and taught until 1893. In the earlier part of his career, however, he had attended school at Oakland City, the Marengo Academy, in Crawford county, one term, four years at the State Normal School in Terre Haute, Indiana, and also at Mount Carmel Seminary, Illinois. In all he taught for twenty-seven years, the last nine of which his average stood at one hundred per cent. for both counties on all common branches of the county schools, which is quite an unusual record. He has taught in Knox, Crawford and Gibson counties.



In 1892 Mr. Sisson gave up his school work and located two and one-half miles northeast of Princeton on the Carnahan farm. He purchased eighty-two and one-half acres, on which he remained until 1905, when he retired from active work, moved to Princeton and has disposed of his farm on which he had built the present comfortable house and made other valuable improvements.

On October 14, 1885, Mr. Sisson was united in marriage to Flora E. Farnum, of Warrick county, Indiana, a daughter of George L. and Alvina (Stuart) Farnum, he a native of Bridgeport, Connecticut, and she of Lockport, New York. The father was engaged in the saw-mill business and was also a local preacher in the Methodist Episcopal church. They eventually came to Indiana and in August, 1861, he enlisted in a regiment of Indiana volunteer infantry and re-enlisted when his first enlistment expired. He was a lieutenant for one year. After returning home after the close of the war, he lived in Newburg, Indiana. He died in Knox county, as did his wife also. They were the parents of five children, four of whom are living, namely: Henry, a traveling salesman in Washington; Lizzie, the wife of David Sisson, brother of the subject of this sketch; the third child is the wife of Joshua S. Sisson, and William G. is a traveling salesman out of Alliance, Ohio. Another son, Herbert, died at the age of nine years.

Joshua S. Sisson and wife are the parents of an interesting family, all of whom have received good education. Blanche, a daughter, has been a teacher in the schools of Princeton for the past four years. Edgar B. served four years in the United States navy, being assigned to the battleship "New Jersey." He also served as hospital apprentice. He is now district traffic chief for the Cumberland Telephone Company at Madisonville, Kentucky. Rollin S. is a machinist in an automobile factory at Indianapolis. His first wife was Inez Smith and to them have been born two children, Ralph and Beatrice. His second wife is named Lizzie and they have two children. Ruth Golden, another daughter of Mr. Sisson, is the wife of David Harder, an engineer on the Southern railroad, and they reside in Princeton. They have two children, Edgar and Ruth Marie. Allen Floyd is another son who is a machinist and he is located at San Fernando, California. His wife was Edith Boswell, and they have one child, John Floyd. In addition to their daughter Blanche, three other children, Hazel, Lester D. and Roger A., remain at home.

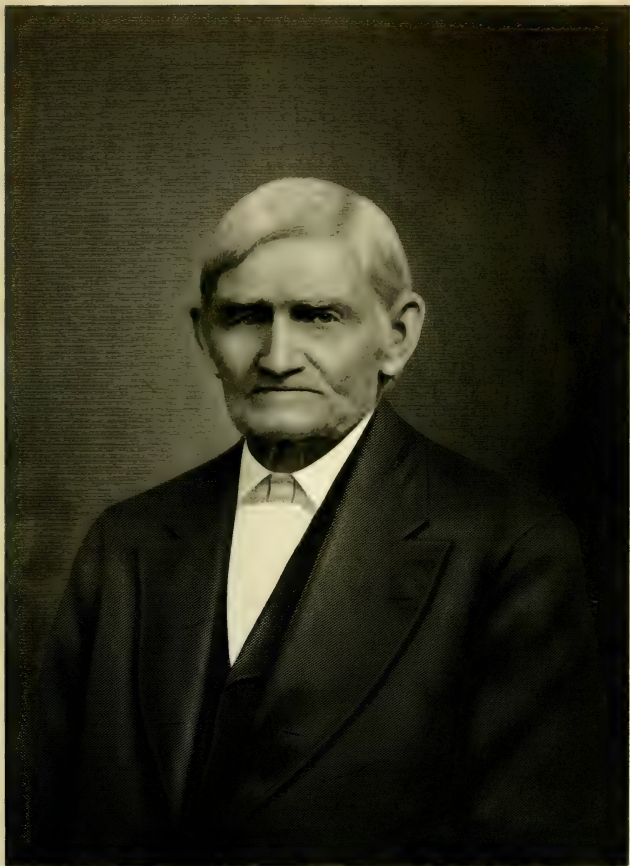
From his activities along educational lines and his long residence in Princeton, Mr. Sisson is too widely known and universally respected for any

attempts of the biographer to place before the public his many sterling qualities. He has always stood for whatever was highest and best along all lines and is worthy the enviable place he has won in public estimation. His fraternal affiliation is with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of which he is a member with Lodge No. 20 at Vincennes, Indiana. He is also a member of Archer Post No. 28, Grand Army of the Republic, at Princeton, and his religious sympathies are with the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he has long been a consistent member. There is scarcely any calling more fraught with opportunities for the accomplishment of good than that of the training of the young, and in attempting to store the minds of the children under his care Mr. Sisson has ever endeavored to have his influence count always for the best.

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### SAMUEL HAMILTON WOODS.

One of the best known men of a past generation in Gibson county, Indiana, one whose record is well deserving of a conspicuous place in his community's history, was the late Samuel Hamilton Woods, who passed from the scenes of his earthly labors on July 14, 1880, at the advanced age of eighty-nine years, four months and thirteen days. A pioneer of this locality, he was for many years one of the most prominent and enterprising agriculturists of the county. Perhaps his dominant and most notable characteristic was his fidelity to truth and honor. He invariably sought the things that were "honest and of good repute." In the training of his children no precepts were so constantly or so urgently insisted on as those which concern sound and worthy character. He taught that honor and truthfulness were of such commanding worth that self-interest should never under any circumstances set them aside. These principles were a standard by which he estimated men, and to which he religiously held himself. Whatever else he might do or fail to do, he meant to be, in all his actions, right before his Creator and man. His life was an inspiration to all who knew him and his memory remains to his friends and surviving children as a blessed benediction of a noble and upright character. While advancing his individual interests, he never lost sight of his obligations to the community in general, and during his entire mature life he held a very high place in the confidence and esteem of all who knew him.



SAMUEL H. WOODS



Samuel Hamilton Woods was descended from a sterling ancestry, who were characterized by that courage and spirit of self-denial without which they would not have been numbered among the founders of the new empire in the Middle West. To such as they is this section of the country indebted for its settlement and subsequent wonderful development. The members of the Woods family are many in number and have occupied honorable positions in their several localities, many of them being residents of Gibson county. Their record here is as follows:

Joseph Woods was born near Charlottesville, Albemarle county, Virginia, August 22, 1745. He was married January 28, 1768, to Mary Hamilton, of said county. She was born in 1747 and died August 26, 1829. About 1700 Joseph Woods, together with his wife and ten children, migrated to Tennessee and settled on the Holston river about ten miles from Knoxville, where Samuel Hamilton Woods, the eleventh and last child, was born in 1791. In 1807 Joseph Woods removed with all his family, except his son Joseph L., to Knox county, Indiana, and settled on the Du Chien (Du Shee) river. April 10, 1809, he removed to Gibson county, Indiana, and settled on Turkey Hill in section 21, township 2 south, range 10 west, three miles southwest of Princeton. In 1811 his son Joseph L., and family, followed from Tennessee and settled two miles west of the homestead. He died January 16, 1835, on his Turkey Hill farm.

Joseph Woods served in the Revolutionary war as a private in Capt. Benjamin Briggs' company, Seventh Virginia Regiment; muster roll dated Fort Pitt, November 18, 1781, "for the year 1780 and January to October, 1781"; "Term of enlistment, War"; "On command at Wheeling." His name was last borne on muster roll for June, 1783, dated at Fort Pitt, July 3, 1783, with remark: "On furlough."

The families of Joseph Woods, pioneer, were as follows:

Family One—John (born 1719, died 1844), married Polly Dickson.

Family Two—James (born 1770, died 1815), married Nancy Dickson, as sister of Polly Dickson.

Family Three—Margaret (born 1772, died 1845), married Samuel Hogue, Sr., an uncle of Samuel, Jr.

Family Four—Patrick (born 1775, died 1856), married Jane Hannah.

Family Five—Joseph L. (born 1776, died 1845), married Elizabeth Hannah, a sister of Jane Hannah.

Family Six—William (born 1778, died 1845), never married.

Family Seven—David (born 1780, died 1841), married Esther Wither-  
spoon.

Family Eight—Isaac (born 1783, died 1872), married Elizabeth  
Witherspoon, a sister of Esther Witherspoon.

Family Nine—Jane (born 1785, died 1848), married Samuel Hogue, Jr.,  
a nephew of Samuel, Sr.

Family Ten—Elizabeth (born 1787, died 1854), married William  
Embree.

Family Eleven—Samuel H. (born 1791, died 1880), married Ann Mc-  
Millan.

Samuel H. Woods was born while his parents were living in Blount county, Tennessee, and was about sixteen years of age when the family came to Indiana, their first settlement being near Vincennes. There they remained about two years, coming, in the spring of 1809, to Gibson county, where they settled on a farm about four miles southwest of Princeton. He was reared amid the conditions surrounding pioneer life, with all its hardships and discomforts, and his early years were characterized by labor of the most strenuous kind, incident to the clearing of the land and the development of a farm. Throughout his active years he followed agriculture as a vocation and, by his indomitable energy and persistent industry, he acquired a large estate and a competency that enabled him to spend his last years in quiet and contentment, enjoying the rest which his many years of toil so richly entitled him to. His last years were spent with his son Robert, who had settled on a part of the old farm, about a quarter of a mile distant from his father.

For a number of years prior to his death, his relatives celebrated his birthday by an annual dinner, which occasions afforded him great delight, for he delighted in the companionship of his relatives and friends. It was his pleasure to relate many reminiscences of the days when he first located in this county, and he was an authority as to many things concerning the pioneer period. He stated that when he came here there was but one house between his home and Princeton, and but one family where Princeton now is. There were then probably but four families within what is now Gibson county. The telegraph, railroads, steam mills and threshing machines were not then dreamed of. Mr. Woods was compelled to go to mill at Vincennes, traveling on horseback and fording the White river, though oftentimes the meal was prepared at home by pounding corn in a mortar.

Samuel H. Woods had an honorable military record, having served in the latter part of the war of 1812, being stationed at Boupas, Illinois, under

Lieut. William Barker. He also, previous to the battle of Tippecanoe, helped guard Vincennes, and there saw Tecumseh with one hundred and forty warriors drawn up in front of Governor Harrison's residence to hold a council. He was a man of great moral and physical courage, qualified by nature for the performance of any duty assigned him, no matter how arduous or dangerous.

Soon after Rev. John Kell took charge of the Reformed Presbyterian church at Princeton, Mr. Woods identified himself with that society, and was thereafter an earnest, faithful and active member until his death. Although his life was, in the main, a busy one, he never shrank from his duties as a citizen and his obligations to his church, his neighbors and his friends. Always calm and dignified, never demonstrative, his life was, nevertheless, a persistent plea, more by precept and example than by written or spoken word, for the purity and grandeur of right principles and the beauty and elevation of wholesome character. To him home life was a sacred trust, friendship was inviolable and nothing could swerve him from the path of rectitude and honor. He had the satisfaction of seeing nearly all his children become members of the church and many of his grandchildren as well.

To Mr. Woods' marriage with Ann McMillan, which was consummated on November 5, 1815, were born eleven children, as follows: James M., Matthew Mc., Joseph H., Samuel Wylie, John, Robert R., David Calvin, John Brown, Sidney M., Renwick C. and Mary Ann Eliza. Of these, but two survive, Mrs. Ann Eliza Hudelson, of Princeton, widow of the late John F. Hudelson, who is referred to specifically elsewhere in this work, and Renwick Campbell Woods, who lives at Kirkwood, Illinois. The death of Mrs. Ann Woods occurred at the family home on August 4, 1861, in the seventy-seventh year of her age. She was born in Chester district, South Carolina, and in 1809, with her mother, then a widow, she emigrated to Gibson county, Indiana. She was reared in the faith of the Reformed Presbyterian church, and was admitted into full communion by the Rev. John Kell, either at the time of the organization of the Princeton congregation, or at the dispensation of the second communion. Wife, mother and home-maker first of all, she did not confine her work to the boundaries of the home, but found the opportunity and inclination to extend her field of usefulness into the world around her, becoming an integral part of the best things that made up the whole of the community life. As the afterglow from the setting sun gives but a faint conception of its glories at noonday, so the memories of her well-spent life reflect but a passing glimpse of the beauty of a life which was hid with Christ.



## JAMES CARITHERS.

In early days the Middle West was often a tempting field for energetic, ambitious, strong-minded men, and Indiana was filled with them during the time she was struggling up to a respectable position in the sisterhood of states. There was a fascination in the broad field and great promise which this newer region presented to activity that attracted many men and induced them to brave the discomforts of the early life here for the pleasure and gratification of constructing their fortunes in their own way and after their own methods. The gentleman whose name heads this sketch is widely known in Gibson county and is one of the honored citizens of Patoka township, where he is living in honorable retirement after a strenuous life of activity in connection with agricultural pursuits. His well directed efforts in the practical affairs of life, his capable management of his business interests and his sound judgment have brought him prosperity and his life demonstrates what may be accomplished by any man of energy and ambition who is not afraid to work and who will not give up in the face of any discouragement that may arise.

James Carithers is a native of Ireland, born in county Donegal in August, 1836, a son of Alexander and Jane (Porter) Carithers, both of the above county. The father was a small farmer and also a linen weaver by trade. Desiring greater advantages for his family of growing children than their native surroundings made possible, he came to America alone in 1848, meaning to send for his family as soon as he could find a suitable location. He at first stopped at Astoria, Long Island, where he remained about a year. At that time the country was aflame with wild stories following the discovery of gold in California and, with bright dreams of what he might accomplish for his family, within a comparatively short time, Mr. Carithers set sail on the long journey around Cape Horn, bound for the California gold fields. He stopped at various places and consumed six months in making the trip. Arriving at his destination in California, he made acquaintance with a doctor from Kentucky and the two became partners in their mining work. They were quite successful and had accumulated considerable, when the doctor turned traitor, clubbed Mr. Carithers over his head with his gun, robbed him and fled, leaving his victim for dead. In due time Mr. Carithers recovered and again took up the work of a miner, though not with such success, although he then felt warranted in sending for his family. He returned to New York City by way of the Isthmus of Panama, making the last lap of



his journey on the steamer "Northern Light." In New York he stayed with relatives and awaited the arrival of his family, who came in 1855, and the same year they came west to Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, where they have since made their homes. Mr. Carithers took his son, James, the immediate subject of this sketch, to visit the boat "Northern Light" as she lay in New York Harbor. After arriving in Gibson county, the different members of the family secured employment on farms in the vicinity and so started in life for themselves. There were in Mr. Carithers' family four sons and one daughter, namely: James, subject of this sketch; Thomas, unmarried, who resides in Center township, Gibson county, where he owns two thousand acres of fine land; Alexander, a farmer in Patoka township and who during the Civil war was a member of Company H, Seventeenth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry; Mary Ann, deceased, who was the wife of Henry P. Weatherly; and Joseph, who resides east of Princeton in Patoka township, and is president of the American National Bank of Princeton. Mr. Carithers was one of a family of six brothers who came to America in their young manhood. Mr. Carithers passed the remainder of his life in Gibson county, where his death occurred; his wife died there also.

James Carithers received but a meager education when a youth in Ireland, which was supplemented by attendance at night school and diligent attention to various lines of reading and other study, until today he is considered a well read man, unusually well informed on current events and fully alive to the interests of his community.

In 1862 Mr. Carithers enlisted in Company A, Eightieth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, as a private. He was first sent to Louisville, Kentucky. At the battle of Perrysville, October 8, 1862, he lost the sight of his left eye, also had part of his left ear shot off and was shot through the jaw. For four months he was confined to the hospital at Evansville, after which time he was sent home. In 1865 he was united in marriage with Eliza E. Townsend, daughter of Erastus D. and Lavina (Raynold) Townsend, natives of Oneida county, New York, who in 1818 left their home and came to Evansville, Indiana, by way of the Allegheny and Ohio rivers. They came directly to Gibson county, where they obtained wild land, hurriedly made a small clearing sufficient for their first log cabin, and then began for them the strenuous life of the pioneer. By diligent effort they reclaimed from the wilderness their fine large farm in Patoka township where they passed the remainder of their lives.

To James Carithers and wife have been born eight children, as follows:

Thomas L., a farmer in Patoka township; Oliver L., who owns a drug store in New Castle, Indiana; Samuel, a graduate of Purdue University, who has large farming interests in northern Montana; Joseph, a farmer east of Princeton in Patoka township; Archibald, a railroad man who died in 1907; Grace, who remains at home; Gertrude, wife of Delmar Clark, a farmer in northern Montana, and Florence, a teacher in the public schools of Princeton for the last four years, and who remains at home. Mr. Carithers has given to each of his children a fine education, a valuable asset especially in this day and age.

James Carithers is a man of powerful physique, who has wonderfully endured his many years of hard physical labor and is today a man extremely well preserved. He is known all over Gibson county, and especially in Patoka township, where he owns two hundred and fifty acres of excellent land, which attests his ability as a farmer employing up-to-date methods. He is also highly successful in stock raising, dividing his attention between that and general farming. Mr. Carithers has an enviable place in the hearts of a vast number of friends and acquaintances who well know his sterling worth and vital interest in anything that makes for the good of any one person or of his community. He is a member of the United Presbyterian church, to which he gives liberal support, and is also a member of Post No. 28, Grand Army of the Republic, in Princeton. Such a family as that of which Mr. Carithers is the head exerts an inestimable influence for the well being of a community and represents the highest type of citizenship, a worthy example and incentive to those less favorably situated.

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### JOSEPH C. DANKS.

It is not an easy task to describe adequately a man who has led an eminently active and busy life and who has attained a position of relative distinction in the community with which his interests are allied. But biography finds its most perfect justification, however, in the tracing and recording of such a life history. It is, then, with a full appreciation of all that is demanded and of the painstaking scrutiny that must be accorded each statement, and yet with a feeling of satisfaction, that the writer essays the task of touching briefly upon the details of such a record as has been that of the honored subject whose life now comes under review.

Joseph C. Danks, who is among the prominent citizens of Gibson county, was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, January 30, 1857, a son of the Rev. Thomas C. and Mary (Young) Danks. To this union six children were born: Joseph C., subject of this sketch, being the oldest; Mary E., wife of S. A. Stewart, of Princeton; Clara, wife of Dr. R. M. Smiley, of Washington, Indiana; Belle, wife of Dr. W. R. Cravens, of Bloomfield, Indiana; Charles, who practices dentistry and resides at Lawrenceville, Illinois, and the youngest, Mrs. Lydia Milburn, who resides at Patoka, Indiana. Both the father and mother of this interesting family were natives of Pennsylvania. The father was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church for many years, and came from his home in Pennsylvania to New Albany, Indiana, in 1867, at the time the subject of this sketch was ten years old, in the interest of the Ohio Falls Iron Works, with which industry he had been connected while in Pennsylvania. Along with his other duties, he acted as local preacher for his church on all possible occasions, but in 1871 he entered the Indiana general conference, from which time on he devoted his entire time to the ministry of the Gospel up to a few years prior to his death, which occurred in 1905. He filled many pastorates throughout his conference, among them being Leavenworth, Elizabeth, Harrison county; Erie, Lawrence county; Patoka, McCutchiss, Vanderburg county; Bruceville, Knox county; Washington, Sullivan, and Bloomfield, which was his last regular charge. In 1890 he established his home in Patoka, where he removed after filling his pastorate at Bloomfield, and in which place he made his home up to the time of his death on December 12, 1905. He was a man in every sense worthy the name. A man of firm convictions, who fearlessly took his stand for the right at all times, and in the discharge of the duties of his most sacred calling he was faithfulness itself. His wife passed away before he did, her death occurring March 1, 1904.

Joseph C. Danks received his elementary education in various schools, later on attending Asbury College at Greencastle, now DePauw University. After leaving college, and up to 1879, he was engaged in the mercantile business in Patoka with his brother-in-law, S. A. Stewart. He later gave his attention to agricultural pursuits and saw-mill business. In 1908 he came to Princeton to reside, where he has since given his attention to the real estate and insurance business under the firm name of Tichenor & Danks, although Mr. Tichenor is not active in the business.

On April 13, 1881, Mr. Danks was united in marriage to Florence Stewart, who died on July 24, 1889. To them were born three children,

John, Estelle and Sue. In October, 1891, Mr. Danks was again married, his bride being Nellie Alvis, of Patoka, by whom he has had five children, Fannie, Ann, Delano, T. Charles and Clara. He still owns a commodious residence at Patoka.

Mr. Danks is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Modern Woodmen of America. Politically, he gives his support to the Republican party. He leads a busy life, his business demanding much attention to detail. Quiet and unassuming in his relations with his fellow men, his sterling qualities have won for him an enviable reputation among those with whom he comes in contact.

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### DR. V. W. S. TRIPPETT.

It is an axiom demonstrated by all human experience that industry is the key to prosperity. Success comes not to him who idly waits for fortune's favors, but to the faithful toiler who, with cheerful celerity and sleepless vigilance, takes advantage of every circumstance calculated to promote his interests. Such a man is the gentleman whose name forms the caption of this biographical review, a well known and highly esteemed citizen of Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, who has, within a comparatively brief period of time, advanced from an humble station in life to a proud position among the leading professional men in a community long noted for the high order of its professional talent. Faithfulness to duty and a strict adherence to a fixed purpose, which always do more to advance a man's interests than wealth or advantageous position, have been dominating factors in his life, which has been replete with honor and success worthily attained. He is known as a man of strictly honest business principles, industrious, pleasant and agreeable.

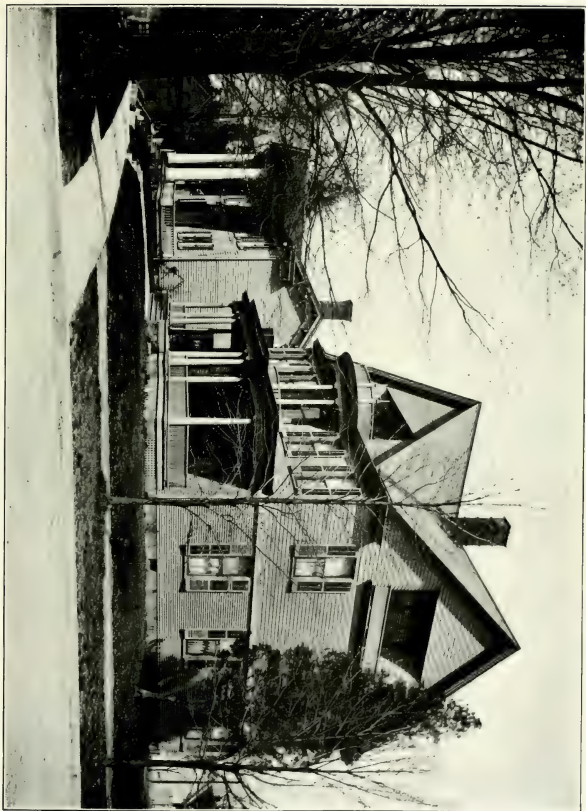
Dr. V. W. S. Trippett was born in Gibson county, Indiana, April 30, 1867, the son of Alex and Betsy A. (Phillips) Trippett. The father of the subject was born in Gibson county, as was also his wife. He was a farmer and died in 1867, the year Doctor Trippett was born, the wife surviving him until 1905. To the subject's parents were born ten children, of whom four are living.

The elementary education of Doctor Trippett was acquired in the common schools, this being supplemented by a course in a business university at Lexington, Kentucky, after which he taught school for one year and then





DR. V. W. S. TRIPPETT.



RESIDENCE OF DR. V. W. S. TRIPPETT.





entered the Louisville College of Dentistry to prepare for his subsequent professional career. Graduating from the dental college in 1892, after a two-years course, the Doctor returned to Princeton, hung out his shingle and has since been engaged in the practice of dentistry, in which he has been rewarded by a large patronage, his clientele being composed of the very best citizens of the community.

Doctor Trippett is the owner of three hundred acres of fine farm land located in Washington, Center and Patoka townships, Gibson county, all of the land being rented. In addition to his holdings of farm land, the subject is the owner of the Trippett block, an office building in which the Doctor's offices are located, the remainder of the building being rented for offices and store rooms. This building was originally erected by the subject in 1893, but was destroyed by fire, the Doctor, however, immediately rebuilding.

In 1894 Doctor Trippett was united in marriage to Annie E. Cox, daughter of Lewis W. Cox, a farmer living near New Harmony in Posey county, Indiana. This union has been blessed by the birth of four children: Marjorie is sixteen years old; Leland is thirteen; Roderick is twelve and Charles is nine.

The offices maintained by the subject are most complete and are equipped with every known approved appliance and apparatus used in the practice of modern dentistry. The Doctor is a well read man, not alone in the works pertaining to his profession, but in general literature, and is particularly well informed on current topics of the day. He takes an active interest in every movement for the advancement and betterment of the community in which he lives and is numbered among the best and representative citizens of his locality. He is an appreciative member of the Masonic fraternity.

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#### LANDON KELL.

Throughout an active and interesting career duty has ever been the motive of action of Landon Kell, one of the progressive citizens of Princeton, Gibson county, and usefulness to his fellow men has not been by any means a secondary consideration. He has performed well his part in life, and it is a compliment worthily bestowed to say that this locality is honored in his citizenship, for he has achieved definite success through his own efforts and is thoroughly deserving of the proud American title of self-made man, the

term being one that, in its better sense, cannot but appeal to the loyal admiration of all who are appreciative of our national institutions and the privileges afforded for individual accomplishment. It is a courage to face the battle of life with a strong heart and steady hand and to win the stern conflict by bringing to bear only those forces with which nature has equipped him,—self-reliance, self-respect and integrity.

Landon Kell, who for many years was numbered among the public school teachers of Gibson county and is now practically retired from active life, was born on February 17, 1851, in Gibson county, Indiana, about two and one-half miles south of Oakland City. He is the son of James and Parthenia (Clifford) Kell. The father, who was born in Warrick county, Indiana, in 1825, was the son of Mathew and Mary (Bates) Kell, the former of whom was a native of the Chester district of South Carolina, and the mother was born in Tennessee. They came to Indiana in wagons in 1821, locating in Warrick county, near Boonville, and in 1827 came to Gibson county, where they located a tract of government land, about two and one-half miles south of Oakland City, which the father cleared and developed into a splendid home. His death occurred in 1861, at the age of seventy-seven years. His wife died in 1865, aged eighty-three. He was a wheelwright by trade, a very substantial and worthy citizen of the community and a member of the United Presbyterian church, being an elder in the Summer-ville Society many years. He was well known and respected throughout the locality. At the time of his death his son James was but a child. He was educated in the old log schools of that period, where, by close attention to his studies and much home reading, he became a well-informed man. He spent his life on the old home place, to which he added until he became the owner of about four hundred sixty acres. In addition to the cultivation of the farm he became an extensive stock raiser and dealer, in which he met with pronounced success. His life record was marked by industry of the most strenuous character. He took a deep interest in politics, and was a staunch supporter of the Republican party. Religiously, he was a member of the United Presbyterian church. In 1871 he moved to a farm east of Princeton, and in 1880 went to Madisonville, Kentucky, where his death occurred on March 31, 1891. He was an active member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and also belonged to the Masonic order at Princeton. He was widely known and highly respected. His wife, Parthenia Clifford, was born about one mile from the Mammoth Cave, in Kentucky, and by her union with Mr. Kell she became the mother of eight children, namely: Westerfield C.,

who formerly lived east of Princeton, but finally moved to Madisonville, Kentucky, where he died in 1910. He had married Sarah Brownfield, who is still living in Madisonville. They were the parents of four children, namely: James, Mary, Parthenia and Westerfield C. Luvicy became the wife of Robert Broomfield, who died in 1909, while her death occurred in 1890. They had two children, Smith and Clara. Landon, the immediate subject of this sketch. William F., a successful physician at Madisonville, Kentucky, was educated in the St. Louis Medical College. He married Martha DeArman and to them were born five children, Robert, Carrie, Luvina, Maude and Boneviri. Nora is the wife of Luther Ligier, near Francisco, this county. Madison F. was drowned in 1870. Clara died in 1866. Cornelius S. is an engineer and lives in South McAllister, Oklahoma.

Landon Kell received his education in the home schools and also in the Owensville and Oakland City high schools. He was reared to the life of a farmer and remained on the old homestead until he was twenty-three years of age, when he removed to Oakland City and established his home. He engaged in teaching school, following this vocation for twenty-one years, first in Columbia township and later in Patoka and Center townships and Francisco. A man of broad and accurate information and with special qualifications as a teacher, he was for many years considered one of the leading educators of his county, his services being in demand wherever a high standard of educational qualifications was desired. In 1896 Mr. Kell moved to Princeton, having ceased teaching in 1890, and since that time has done considerable carpenter work and painting, though not now as active in these lines as formerly. About 1874 Mr. Kell was married to Maria T. Watkins, a native of Patoka township, Gibson county, Indiana, the daughter of Parnell and Sarah (Taylor) Watkins. Parnell Watkins was born in O'Brien county, Tennessee, and came to Gibson county in 1826, settling east of Princeton where he acquired a considerable tract of wild land, to the clearing and improvement of which he devoted himself, and lived there until many years later, when he moved to another tract east of Princeton, where he spent the rest of his life. His wife, who was a native of London, England, died on the old place on which they first located after coming here, and his death occurred later, about five miles east of Princeton. To Mr. and Mrs. Kell have been born the following children: James A., who is engaged in the newspaper business at Little Rock, Arkansas, married Florence B. Radcliff. Purcell W. was killed on the Southern Railroad at Walnut Hills, Illinois, in November, 1909. He married Julia McClure and they had four children,

Lester, Edna, Martha and George. Edna B. became the wife of George Bryant, who is with the Campbell Paint Company at St. Louis, Missouri, and they have two children, Joseph B. and Mary Maria. A son died in infancy. Ralph, who is unmarried and lives at home, is a mail carrier in the city of Princeton.

Politically a Republican, Mr. Kell has for many years taken an active part in politics, and has been an influential factor in the success of his party in this county, though never ambitious for a public office on his own account. Religiously, he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, while his fraternal relations are with the Masonic order at Princeton. Mr. Kell takes a good citizen's interest in public affairs, and casts his ballot in accordance with the dictates of his conscience, his support being always given to all worthy causes. In every relation in life he has been always true to his conscience and he enjoys the good will of all who know him.

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#### ANDREW MCGREGOR.

Among the strong and influential citizens of Gibson county, the record of whose lives has become an essential part of the history of this section, the gentleman whose name appears above occupies a prominent place and for years he has exerted a beneficial influence in the locality where he resides. Andrew McGregor is one of the few remaining figures of the early pioneer days of Gibson county and has many interesting things to tell regarding those early times. In his boyhood wild game was plentiful around here and the present city of Princeton was then but a struggling village.

Andrew McGregor was born March 5, 1831, in Gibson county, Indiana, the son of George and Margaret (Gordon) McGregor, he a native of Virginia and she of South Carolina. George McGregor, when a young man, came westward into Ohio, where he remained for a short time, then came on to Gibson county about 1825. He obtained possession of wild land near Sommerville, Gibson county, and here he made a home and there passed the remaining years of his life. He was among the foremost farmers and stock raisers of his day, a man well known and respected in the county. He and his wife were the parents of seven children, namely: David Riley, born in 1827, who acquired a farm near Sommerville on which he lived and died; Mary Ann, born in 1829, married Riley Harper and both are now dead; the third child was Andrew, immediate subject of this sketch; Martha Jane, the

widow of Joseph McGarrah, who resides in Princeton; Hamilton, who many years ago went to Missouri and has never since been heard from; James, a soldier of the Civil war, who was killed in the battle of Stone's River, while a member of Company F, Forty-second Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and the youngest daughter, Lizzie, now deceased, who married William Sprowl.

Andrew McGregor had very little opportunity for schooling in early days. He remained at home until he was twenty-four years of age, when he located east of Princeton where Mackey Station now is, on the Southern railroad. He obtained a tract of wild land there which he cleared and made a home, clearing the very ground on which the station now stands. Later he also obtained a tract of one hundred and twenty-three acres of land near Sommerville. This was also virgin ground, which he put in shape for cultivation.

In 1855 Andrew McGregor was joined in wedlock to Harriet Burton, daughter of Amos and Polly Burton, natives of Virginia, who were among the pioneer settlers of Gibson county, where they lived and died. They also were farming people. To Andrew McGregor and wife were born seven children: Samuel, who died August 29, 1913. He worked in a mill and was a bottler of soft drinks in Princeton for a number of years before his death. His wife was Ida Brownlee. They have three children, Edward, William and Maude. The next child was Cyrus, who is a farmer and brick mason in Patoka township, Gibson county. He married Emily Connors and they have one son, Everett. Margaret J. married Jacob Leuthold, of Springfield, Missouri. John is deceased. Alice married James Osborn and both are now dead. Kate, wife of Wallace Howland, both of whom are now dead. The youngest child, Bessie, became the wife of George Nicholson and both are now dead. They had one daughter, Genevieve, who married Walter Grace of Princeton, an upholsterer for the Southern railroad at Princeton. They have one daughter, Olive. Mr. and Mrs. Grace have always made their home with her grandfather.

On August 14, 1862, Andrew McGregor enlisted in Company F, Forty-second Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, at Princeton. He was instrumental in securing fifteen volunteers for this regiment. He was sent to Indianapolis to be fitted out, was then ordered to Bardstown and Louisville, Kentucky, and on to Lebanon and Nashville, Tennessee. He was in the battle of Murfreesboro, Chattanooga, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, and was with the Army of the Cumberland. He received an honorable dis-

charge June 25, 1865, when he returned home and took up his occupation of farming. He also operated a threshing machine and has operated saw mills in various parts of the county, but has now been retired from active duties for several years.

Mr. McGregor's religious sympathies are with the Presbyterian church, to which he gives generously of his time and substance. He is an earnest advocate of total abstinence and an enthusiastic worker in the cause of temperance. It naturally follows that he is a consistent member of the Prohibition party.

Mr. McGregor is wonderfully preserved for a man of his years, a splendid personality and because of his industrious habits and persistent energy he has attained definite success and enjoys the respect and high esteem of the community in which he has resided all of his long and busy life.

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#### ANDERSON E. CROWE.

The true measure of individual success is determined by what one has accomplished. An enumeration of those men who have succeeded in their special vocations in Gibson county, and at the same time are impressing their personalities on the community, men who are conferring honor on the locality in which they reside, would be incomplete were there failure to make specific mention of the gentleman whose name initiates this paragraph, for he is an important factor in the business life of his community. The splendid success which has come to him has been the direct result of the salient points in his character, for, with a mind capable of laying judicious plans and a will strong enough to carry them into execution, his energy, foresight and perseverance have carried him forward to a position in the front rank of the successful men of his community. He has carried forward to successful completion whatever he has undertaken, and his business methods have ever been in strict conformity with the standard ethics of commercial life. He has taken an intelligent interest in the civic life of the community and has earned the high regard in which he is held by all who know him.

Anderson E. Crowe, retired merchant tailor of Princeton, Indiana, is a native of Gibson county, born October 2, 1828, the son of William and Elizabeth (Stephens) Crowe. They had early come to Gibson county from Fleming county, Kentucky. The father was a native of Ireland, who had emigrated to America and settled in Kentucky, where he met and married Miss

Stephens, who was born and raised in Fleming county. Together they came to Gibson county and settled on land six miles east of Princeton. Later he secured a farm in Patoka township, where he lived the remainder of his life, which was only a short time, as his death occurred in 1832. In early life he was a stone cutter by trade. William Crowe and wife were the parents of seven children, namely: Mary, deceased, who married William Foster; John and Alvin S., deceased; Louisa, wife of William Rainey, residing in Salem, Illinois; Anderson E., the immediate subject of this sketch, and Nelson K. and Algernon S., both dead. The family was reared in the faith of the Covenanter church.

Anderson E. Crowe had only limited opportunities for schooling when a boy, and at the tender age of twelve years was placed in the tailor shop of Robert Duncan in Princeton, to learn the trade. He served with Mr. Duncan about eight years, when he opened a shop of his own in partnership with B. F. Brownlee. This partnership continued for a short time only, when he continued the business alone. He later opened a clothing store on the south side of the square in Princeton, which he operated for a time, when he took into partnership William G. Foster and they opened a more pretentious clothing store on the north side of the square. This business was closed out and he moved to Xenia, Ohio, where he worked at his trade. It was here he met the lady who became his wife. She was Mary McFarland, of Cedarville, Ohio, daughter of Jacob McFarland. They were married May 29, 1856, and she died May 21, 1887. To their union were born six children, namely: William M., who died in 1885; Carrie L., deceased; Mary Louisa, residing in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the wife of James H. Craig. Another daughter is Eva, wife of G. B. Ayres, of Anderson, Indiana. Anna Belle and Rose Alma remain at home, the latter being a reporter on the *Princeton Clarion News*. After his marriage, the subject was in the clothing business in Xenia, Ohio, and later went to Cedarville, where he worked at his trade until the outbreak of the Civil war. On September 13, 1862, he enlisted in Company D, Forty-fourth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was with the Army of the Cumberland. He became ill at Mount Vernon, Kentucky, and was sent to Camp Dennison, where he remained sick for a year and was on a furlough. He was transferred to the veteran corps in Chicago and later was sent to Springfield, Illinois, where he received his discharge August 12, 1865. After leaving the army, he returned to Cedarville, Ohio, where he again opened up a tailor shop and was also for a time engaged in the saw-mill business with Joshia Mitchell. Later he returned to his old home in Prince-



ton and, together with David Archer, bought out Robert Duncan. This business was continued for about eighteen years, Mr. Crowe working some at the tailor trade, until his retirement.

Mr. Crowe's life has been a busy one, full of effort and achievement, and in all his affairs he has been known as an honest and upright man. He is a member of Archer Post No. 28, Grand Army of the Republic, and also a consistent member of the United Presbyterian church in Princeton, to whose support he contributes of his substance. Mr. Crowe is a finely preserved man for his years, retains an excellent memory and is widely known throughout Gibson county, as a great number of friends attest.

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### JOHN F. HUDELSON.

Among the citizens of Gibson county, Indiana, who built up comfortable homes and surrounded themselves with valuable personal property, during a past generation, few attained a greater degree of success than the late John F. Hudelson, one of the earliest residents and most public-spirited citizens of this county. With few opportunities except what his own efforts were capable of mastering and with many discouragements to overcome, he achieved an exceptional success in life and in his old age had the gratification of knowing that the community had been benefited by his presence and his counsel. He was regarded as a good business man, an excellent manager, a man who possessed sound judgment and keen foresight, and who believed in pressing forward, keeping the wheels of the car of civilization ever moving up the steeps. He ever enjoyed the respect and esteem of those who knew him for his friendly manner, business ability, his interest in public affairs and upright living and he was regarded by all as one of the substantial and worthy citizens of Gibson county, in whose advancement and growth he took a conspicuous part.

John F. Hudelson was born near the city of Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, on the 10th day of August, 1835, and his death occurred at his home in Princeton on October 11, 1895. He was the son of Samuel and Katie (Flemming) Hudelson, the former of whom was a native of South Carolina, but who came to Gibson county, Indiana, in a very early day. Here he acquired a tract of land, which he developed into a good farm and in the early life of this community he was a prominent figure. His son, John F., was reared on the old homestead and secured his education in the district schools,







ANN E. HUDELSON



JOHN F. HUDELSON



which at that early day lacked in many of what are today considered essential requirements to a good common school education. Nevertheless, he was a man of strong mentality and, by much reading and habits of close observation, he became a man of more than ordinary attainments, being well informed on a wide variety of subjects. Upon attaining mature years he continued agricultural pursuits on his own account and, through persevering industry and sound business methods, he was prospered through the years, so that, in April, 1882, when he retired from active farming operations, he owned nearly a thousand acres of splendid farm land, nearly all of which was in cultivation. In the year mentioned Mr. Hudelson bought a town residence at No. 503 South Hart street, Princeton, which was completely remodeled into a beautiful and attractive home by Mrs. Hudelson after her husband's death. He still maintained general supervision over his farm lands, which, since his death, have been successfully managed by Mrs. Hudelson, who possesses marked business ability and mature judgment in matters requiring discernment and sagacity. Mr. Hudelson became a large stockholder in the Farmers National Bank of Princeton and was a member of its board of directors, his counsel and advice being valued highly by his associates. Mr. Hudelson was a busy and industrious man, and he attained to a place of importance in his locality in which he was a constant quantity. One of the kind that make up the front rank, the kind that can be relied on, a good workman in the world's affairs, he was a splendid specimen of the many that do the real hard work of the world in places of passing importance, and do it well. It was a kind of life that does not attract attention for its unusual brilliance or any picturesque qualities, but the kind out of which the warp and woof of the substance that goes to make up the continuous achievement of humanity is made. His death removed from Gibson county one of her most substantial and highly esteemed citizens and the many beautiful tributes to his high standing as a man and citizen attested to the abiding place he had in the hearts and affections of those who knew him. All in all, he was a splendid example of the virile, progressive, self-made man who believed in doing well whatever was worth doing at all, a man of keen discernment and sound judgment, broad minded and fair and just in all his dealings with his fellow men. Thus he enjoyed to an eminent degree the confidence and good will of all who knew him.

On December 18, 1862, Mr. Hudelson was united in marriage with Ann Eliza Woods, the daughter of Samuel H. and Ann (McMillin) Woods. Samuel H. Woods was born in Blount county, Tennessee, on March 1, 1791.

and died on July 14, 1880, at the age of eighty-nine years. His father, Joseph Woods, came to Indiana in 1807, being numbered among the real pioneers of the Hoosier state and locating near Vincennes. In 1809 he located on Turkey Hill, where he achieved success as a farmer and where he spent the remainder of his years. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, taking part in the battle of Tippecanoe, where General Harrison so decisively defeated the Indians, and he also helped to guard Fort Vincennes during those troublous days. To him and his wife were born eleven children, of whom but two are now living, Mrs. Hudelson and R. C., who lives at Kirkwood, Illinois. Mrs. Hudelson is a woman of marked attainments and possesses to a notable degree those womanly qualities and graces which have endeared her to all who know her. She has taken an active interest in current events and has been president of the Woods family re-union continuously since its organization. In the civic life of the community she has been actively interested and has been at the head of the ladies' waiting room in the court house at Princeton. She is an earnest member of the United Presbyterian church and until recently has been active in her support of the various interests of that society. She is a member of the Woman's Relief Corps, auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic.

Politically, Mr. Hudelson was a life-long supporter of the Democratic party, but in local elections he assumed an independent attitude, voting for the men and measures which in his opinion were for the best interests of the community. He, too, was a faithful member of the United Presbyterian church, to the support of which he was a liberal contributor. A man of strong domestic tastes, he found his greatest enjoyment in his home, where he delighted to entertain his friends, for whom "the latch-string always hung on the outside."

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#### WILLIAM M. McCLURE.

There could be no more comprehensive history written of a city or county, or even of a state and its people, than that which deals with the life work of those who, by their own endeavor and indomitable energy, have placed themselves where they well deserve the title of "progressive," and in this sketch will be found the record of one who has outstripped the less active and less able plodders on the highway of life, one who has not been subdued by the many obstacles that come to every one, but who has made them stepping stones to higher things and at the same time that he was

winning his way in material affairs of life, gained a reputation for uprightness and honor.

William M. McClure is a native of the city of Princeton, born March 29, 1848, the son of Joseph P., born October 16, 1815, on the old McClure place, and the father of Joseph was James, born in Maryland, and his father was born in Ireland, being the first of the family to emigrate to America. He had one son and one daughter and lost his life in one of the battles of the Revolutionary war. After the close of the war, his widow and two children went into Kentucky. James McClure, Jr., and Col. Jacob Warrick were the first white men to begin clearing the timber from the land south of the Patoka river. In 1804 they cleared a piece of ground southwest of Princeton, put in a crop of corn and tended it through the summer. They built a stout log pen in which they placed the husked corn and covered it securely with logs in order to protect it from the bears prowling about in great numbers. They then returned to their homes in Kentucky, but were back in Gibson county again in 1806, having their families with them. June 6, 1808, James McClure was united in marriage with Malinda Ann Warrick, who was born in Kentucky in 1788, a daughter of Colonel Jacob. James McClure was born October 6, 1785, the son of Irish parentage. His mother's name was Jane and she died in Princeton.

Malinda Ann Warrick McClure had two brothers and five sisters, John, Jacob, Mary, Ruth, Margaret, Elizabeth and Ellen Jane. At the time of her marriage to James McClure, her father, Col. Jacob Warrick, was living on what is now known as the Major Smith farm, two miles east of Owensville, Indiana, and they set up their new home on the site now occupied by the McCam Summit. Here they lived for many years and reared their family. They also had a farm one mile southwest of Princeton, and James McClure also had a tannery. He was a man of importance in his day, known throughout the sparsely settled district and highly respected by all. They were the first couple united in marriage by the Rev. Alexander Devine after he came to Gibson county and they were also the first couple married south of the Patoka river. To their union were born ten sons and one daughter. Albert P., their oldest, was the first white child born in Gibson county of parents married in the county. Then there were Edwin, James B., Ella Jane, Joseph P., William M., Henry, David H., Robert, George W. and John W. The only member of this family now living is Robert, who resides in Los Angeles, California.

Joseph P. McClure was the only one of the above named large family

to remain in Gibson county and rear a family. In his youth he received only a limited schooling at the early subscription schools and, as was the case with most young boys of his time, he was early put to the hard work of helping to clear the land and make a home. He remained on the home place and on February 13, 1834, was united in marriage to Catherine Ann Devine, born in Princeton, a daughter of the Rev. Alexander Devine. The latter was the son of William and Sarah Devine and was born March 27, 1769. His parents were from Pottsylvania county, Virginia, and he took as his wife Sukin Nowlen, daughter of Payton and Lucy Nowlen, of Virginia, born March 12, 1771. The Rev. Alexander Devine and wife came to Gibson county in 1808 and he obtained a tract of land on which they lived to the day of their death. On this land the Independent Order of Odd Fellows' cemetery is now located. The Rev. Mr. Devine was a man of influence in his day and did much to improve the high moral tone of the growing community. They raised a numerous family, as follows: Elizabeth, born February 22, 1792; Lucy, born May 6, 1793; James, born June 9, 1794; Sukin, born September 22, 1796; Sarah, born February 4, 1799; Alexander, born December 14, 1801; Virginia, born June 2, 1803; Joseph, born May 22, 1805; Robert, born June 22, 1807; Payton Nowlen, born August 5, 1808; Mary, born July 5, 1810; Catherine Ann, born July 8, 1812, and Mary Smith, born December 23, 1814.

After their marriage in 1834, Joseph McClure and wife located about two miles southeast of Princeton. They purchased the interests of the Devine heirs and on the land so obtained they made their home, farming it to the best advantage the times afforded, and here they both died. Joseph McClure was a staunch Republican and was a member of the General Baptist church. He and his wife reared a family of twelve children, namely: Eleanor J., born June 7, 1835, married James W. Key, of Patoka, Indiana; Mary B., now deceased, born June 9, 1836, married Henry G. Wheeler, of Princeton; Alexander, deceased, born December 22, 1837; Susan Ann, deceased, born May 10, 1839; James B., deceased, born June 20, 1841; Margaret E. C., deceased, born November 6, 1843; Joseph D., born July 9, 1844, now living retired at Evansville, Indiana; Robert M., born September 16, 1846, residing at Mound City, Kansas; William M., the immediate subject of this sketch, born September 29, 1848; George W., born July 17, 1850, is still farming the old homestead; Nancy, born December 15, 1852, wife of W. C. Hudleson, of Patoka township; Franklin P. P., born May 9, 1855, also engaged in farming on the old homestead in Patoka township.



This family discharged its duty to the Union in the dark days of the sixties in a gratifying manner, sending five of its sons to the front, all of whom were permitted to pass through the conflict and return home. Alexander D., James, Robert and William M. were members of Company H, Seventeenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, while Joseph D. enlisted in Company F, Thirty-third Regiment. Alexander J. served with special distinction, being special scout for Generals Thomas and Wilder. He was the first of the McClure sons to die, his death occurring in 1902.

William M., the immediate subject of this sketch, enlisted on March 12, 1865, and received his honorable discharge on August 8, 1865. He was all through Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia. After the close of the war he returned home and attended school for a year. He later took a commercial course at Evansville, Indiana, and engaged in the drug business in St. Louis for four years. He then returned to Princeton and was associated with B. B. Estes for about two years. From 1878 to 1890 he engaged in farming, when he disposed of his agricultural interests and entered the ranks of carpenters and contractors in Princeton, in which work he has since engaged. In 1893 he removed his family to Princeton, where they are much thought of. Mr. McClure is a man blessed with a retentive memory, to whose store of knowledge he is constantly adding. He is considered a man well posted on current events and a man of right principles who stands firm on his convictions. Politically, Mr. McClure is an earnest supporter of the Republican party, while his fraternal affiliations are with the Free and Accepted Masons, of which order he has been a member for the past twenty-five years. Religiously, he is a member of the General Baptist church and has always taken a deep interest in the prosperity of that society. He is also a member of Archer Post No. 28, Grand Army of the Republic.

Mr. McClure was married in 1878 to Martha E. Latham, of Prentice, Illinois, a daughter of James and Julia A. Latham. Her father was originally a farmer in Gibson county. There are nine children in the McClure family, namely: Amy Alice, born March 30, 1881, married Jesse French, of Union township, Gibson county; Julia A., born December 2, 1882, widow of P. W. Kell, of Princeton; Lester Latham, born July 10, 1884, married Catherine Arburn. This son is in the contracting business at Pueblo, Colorado; Joseph D. D., born July 23, 1887, is a carpenter at Princeton. He married Bertha Glazier; Van Raymond was born April 8, 1891, and is a carpenter by trade; Percy M., born October 5, 1894, remains at home; Jos-

eph Perry, born July 17, 1897; Harriet, born December 22, 1899, and Cloyd Latrom, born January 12, 1903. The latter three are also at home.

Personally, Mr. McClure is a man of genial and unassuming character, who, because of his genuine worth and staunch integrity, has won and retains the unalloyed good will of all who know him. Mrs. McClure is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and is earnest in advancing its cause. They have an ideal home and out of it young folks go forth well fitted to battle with the world and come out victorious.

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### JOHN MAHAN.

Of the sturdy sons of the Emerald Isle it has been said that they have "won every country's freedom but their own," and a review of the struggle against oppression or tyranny in any land will disclose the fact that in the forefront of the battle line, if, indeed, not leading it, the valiant lads from the land of the harp and shamrock have borne well their part. During the dark days of the war between the American states in 1861-'65, probably no other country furnished more recruits to the ranks of the "boys in blue" than did Ireland, and among those worthy defenders of the integrity of their adopted country none bore a more noble part or acquitted himself with greater honor than the one whose name forms the caption of this brief biographical review. Not alone did he acquit himself well in those "times that tried men's souls," but in the pursuits of peace his record has been one of usefulness, honor and fidelity to the best principles of life.

John Mahan was born in May, 1838, in county Donegal, Ireland, the son of John and Nancy (Peoples) Mahan, both natives of the same county. The father was a farmer and died in 1854, his widow, with five children, emigrating to the United States that same year and locating at Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, where she died in 1860. The five children of John and Nancy Mahan were Ellen, who married William Marrow and they lived in Gibson county, both now being deceased; Samuel, who was a farmer and is now deceased, married Mary Marrow; James married Nancy Marrow, followed farming and is now deceased; John; Hugh, a farmer in Patoka township, married Belle Greer.

John Mahan had attended school in Ireland, and on the removal of the family to this country he resumed his studies in the Gibson county schools,

devoting the remainder of his time to assisting in the farm work on the place of his uncle, William Marrow, with whom he lived up to the time of the outbreak of the Civil war. In May, 1861, Mr. Mahan enlisted in Company H, Seventeenth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, at Princeton, Indiana, being sent from that place, with his comrades, to Indianapolis for outfitting and preliminary instruction in military duties. The gathering clouds of war had by this time burst in all their fury and the command to which the subject was attached was quickly rushed to the front, going from the Hoosier capital first to Cincinnati and then into the state of Virginia, where they took part in the battle of Greenbriar, then being dispatched into the Blue Grass state, where they were engaged in the battle of Bowling Green. From Kentucky the force of which Mr. Mahan was a member went to Chattanooga, Tennessee, and joined General Sherman, being with him on his famous "march to the sea." The subject's brother Hugh was a member of the same company and regiment, and while in the service they were in the commands of Generals Haskell and Wilder and Major Gorman. At the close of the war, in the spring of 1865, the brothers were honorably discharged.

Shortly after returning home from his country's service, Mr. Mahan was united in marriage to Mary Jane Greer, a native of county Donegal, Ireland, the district in which the subject was born. She was the daughter of Henry and Jane (Marrow) Greer, who came from the "old sod" to America in the early fifties and settled in Patoka township, Gibson county, Indiana, where they cleared land and established their home. The father of the subject's wife was a Union soldier, a member of Company H, Seventeenth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He met his death at Chattanooga, Tennessee, being struck by a train on a bridge. The mother is long since deceased. To the parents of the subject's wife were born four children: Jane, Mrs. Mahan, who died April 13, 1895, in her fifty-third year; Bea married Hugh Mahan; Sallie is the widow of James Anderson, of Princeton; Henry is a farmer at Princeton.

After his marriage Mr. Mahan sold his land in Princeton and bought land five miles east of that place, built a good home and outbuildings and took up the work of developing the place, in which he was quite successful, adding to his original holding until he is now the owner of one hundred and eighty acres of as good land as can be found in the community. Here he lived and carried on general farming until his retirement, when he rented his farm and purchased his present home at No. 612 East State street in

Princeton, where he is now living in honorable retirement, reaping the reward of a well earned rest after a life of worthy endeavor.

To the subject and his wife were born ten children: John, Maggie and Annie are deceased; Robert is engaged in the undertaking business in Deming, New Mexico; Henry married Margaret McCullough and is farming on the old home place; Ella M. is at home; Edith is deceased; James married Agnes Legier and is farming on the old home place; Ralph is deceased; Everett married Stelia DePriest.

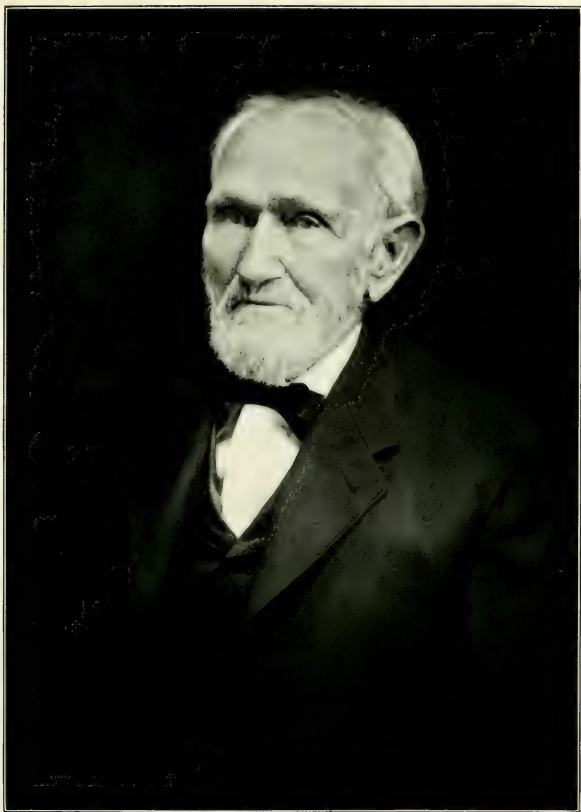
Mr. Mahan, who is a remarkably well preserved man for his age, is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, belonging to Archer Post No. 28, at Princeton, while he is an earnest and faithful member of the United Presbyterian church.

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### ANDERSON G. MAKEMSON.

It is a pleasure to investigate the career of a successful, self-made man. Peculiar honor attaches to that individual who, beginning the great struggle of life alone and unaided, gradually overcomes unfavorable environment, removes one by one the obstacles from the pathway of success and by the master strokes of his own force and vitality succeeds in forging his way to the front and winning for himself a competency and a position of esteem and influence among his fellow-men. Such is the record of the popular citizen of Gibson county to a brief synopsis of whose life and character the following pages are devoted.

Andrew G. Makemson, whose home is at Baldwin Heights, just south of Princeton, was born in Gibson county about five miles northeast of Princeton, on October 24, 1829. His ancestors were among the very first settlers in this part of the country. Andrew, his father, was born in Virginia in 1785, of sterling Scotch-Irish stock, and the father of Andrew was Joseph, a native of Scotland who brought his wife to America during the Revolutionary war and located in Virginia. There their son Andrew was born and, when he was still a small boy, they journeyed westward into Kentucky, locating near Shelbyville. Here, on July 30, 1811, Andrew was united in marriage to Margaret Shafer, who was born June 11, 1792. In 1820 Joseph Makemson and wife, with their oldest son, Andrew, and his wife, together with Joseph, James, Nancy and Sarah, younger children of Joseph, came to Indiana, locating in Perry county, bringing with them their horses and household goods. However, they were not pleased with their first location and in 1822 decided



ANDERSON G. MAKEMSON.



to come on to Gibson county. Andrew made a sled and loaded thereon their clothing and bedding and on another horse his young wife rode into Gibson county. They secured heavily timbered land laying northeast of Princeton, hastily made a small clearing where their cabin was raised and began various improvements which all helped to make a comfortable and happy home. In this pioneer home, Andrew, the immediate subject of this sketch, first saw the light of day. There were at that time only five or six other settlers within a radius of two or three miles and many were the hardships they endured. Joseph Makemson and his wife died on this place and were laid to rest in what is now known as the Archer cemetery. James, one of the sons brought with them to Indiana, at one time lived near the old homestead, but later went to Illinois, and Sarah, one of the daughters, married James Finney and lived southwest of Princeton..

Andrew Makemson and wife continued to live on the old homestead until removed by death. She died April 6, 1841, and his death occurred December 9, 1860, in his seventy-eighth year. In this old home they reared their family of eleven children. Joseph, the oldest, was a farmer. His wife was Polly Lamasters and both are dead. Nancy Allen was a daughter who died young and unmarried, while Sarah became the wife of James Finney and they went to Illinois to make their home. Later they returned to Gibson county and both died here. James, deceased, was a carpenter who also lived in Illinois for a time, but returned to his native county. Another son, William, died when small. Benjamin was a farmer, who went to Illinois and later to Kansas, where he died. His wife was Elizabeth Townsend. John S., who is eighty-eight years old, is living at Corning, Iowa, a retired carpenter. Mary Jane married James Barton (both dead) and they made their home in Gibson county. The tenth child was Thomas B., who died young, and the youngest, Margaret Ann, became the wife of Robert Millis, and they make their home in Leavenworth, Kansas. Andrew and wife were members of the Covenantan church, living in strict accordance with the rules of the same. Andrew was known among his friends as a man of uncompromising integrity, strict and stern in his views, as had been his father before him, and highly respected in the community.

Anderson G. Makemson had small opportunity for schooling in his boyhood, often having to go as far as three miles through the unbroken forests. He, however, secured the rudiments of an education and to this store of knowledge he constantly added until he came to be considered a well informed man. He was almost wholly self-taught. He remained on the old home until he became of age, taking care of the old folks. After his mother's

death, his father remarried, taking as his second wife Ann Murphy, a native of Ohio. She died November 22, 1872, without issue. In 1877 Anderson G. Makemson sold the old homestead and purchased sixty acres just south of Princeton, where he has since resided. Some time ago he disposed of about twenty-eight acres to a real estate company which platted the land into town lots, giving the addition the name of Baldwin Heights. Mr. Makemson is also the owner of a fine eighty-acre farm located east of Princeton.

On December 12, 1850, Anderson G. Makemson was united in marriage to Emeline Murphy, a native of Gibson county, who died May 11, 1896. To their union were born eight children, namely: Charles B. and John died while young; Monroe, born in 1857, died in 1878. The first daughter was Belle, born in 1859, and who married Robert Woodburn, of Princeton. Hettie has always lived at home. Mary is the wife of William Davis, of Princeton. Lizzie married James Sturgess, a farmer residing in Princeton. Genevieve died in 1870. Hettie was a teacher in the schools of Gibson county for ten years and now makes the home for her father.

Mr. Makemson's political sympathies are with the Democratic party and he has taken an active interest in its affairs. However, he never aspired to office, but was ditch commissioner from 1880 to 1886. He is a member of Archer Post No. 28 of Princeton, Grand Army of the Republic.

On December 22, 1864, Mr. Makemson enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Forty-third Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, at Princeton, and was sent to Nashville, Tennessee. He was also at Tallahassee, Tennessee, and was mustered out of service in September, 1865. Mr. Makemson has always been a plain common man of affairs, who by close attention to his business and the best of principles has secured for himself a competence and had made for himself an enviable place in the hearts of his many friends. He is a man well preserved for his years, a most agreeable man to meet and throughout his long life he has stood in the forefront of those who have tried in every way to improve the tone of the community.

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#### FLOYD J. BIGGS.

There could be no more comprehensive history written of a city or even of a state and its people than that which deals with the life-work of those who, by their own endeavor and indomitable energy, have placed themselves where they well deserve the title of "prominent and progressive," and



in this sketch will be found the record of one who has outstripped the less active and less able trodders on the highway of life and who today occupies an enviable position in his community.

Floyd J. Biggs was born in Webster county, Kentucky, August 17, 1873, and is a son of Alonzo C. and Charlotte J. (Hall) Biggs. The father, who followed the mercantile and grain business during his active life, died in 1906 and his widow is now living at Tucson, Arizona. Mr. Biggs attended the common schools of Waverly, Kentucky, and later was a student in Cecilian College at Cecilian, that state, where he graduated, and then became a student in the School of Pharmacy at Louisville, Kentucky, where he was graduated and received his degree. At the age of twenty-one years Mr. Biggs became a member of the firm of Biggs, Waller & Company, druggists, at Morganfield, Kentucky, but about a year later he came to Princeton, Indiana, and established himself in the drug business on the public square. From 1895 to 1910 he occupied that locality, and was prosperous to such a degree that he was compelled to seek larger quarters, and in the year last named he moved to his present fine store on the corner of Hart and State streets. This is not only one of the largest drug stores in southern Indiana, but has one of the largest and best selected stocks, valued at about twenty-five thousand dollars, and comprising a full line of splendid drugs and proprietary medicines, wall paper, paints, books and druggists' sundries, and a beautiful soda fountain, which occupies a conspicuous position in the room. Mr. Biggs has, by strict attention to business and the exercise of sound judgment in the management of his affairs, achieved a pronounced success and for a number of years has been numbered among Princeton's most substantial business men.

In 1909 Mr. Biggs was married to Celeste Prince Downey, daughter of W. J. and Octavia (Hall) Downey, both of whom were natives of the state of Indiana, the father born in Posey county and the mother in Gibson county. They were among the early residents of this county and are representatives of prominent old families of this community, the town of Princeton having been named for the Prince family and Hall street of this city for the Hall family. To Mr. and Mrs. Biggs has been born one child, Nancy Celeste, now four years of age. The family now reside in a splendid and attractive home on South Hall street, where the spirit of hospitality is always in evidence and which is a favorite gathering place for the many friends of the family. Fraternally, Mr. Biggs is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons, the Knights of Pythias and the Benevolent and Protective Order

of Elks, in the workings of which orders he takes an appreciative interest. In every relation of life Mr. Biggs has been true to his highest ideals, and today no man in his community stands better in the public estimation than he, for he has at all times stood for the best things in life and for the advance of the community along all lines.

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### RICHARD MONTGOMERY.

It is a well attested fact that the greatness of a community or a state lies not in the machinery of government nor even in its institutions, but rather in the sterling qualities of the individual citizen, in his capacity for high and unselfish effort and his devotion to the public welfare. In these particulars he whose name appears at the head of this review has conferred honor and dignity upon his locality, and as an elemental part of history it is consonant that there should be recorded a resume of his career, with the object in view of noting his connection with the advancement of one of the most flourishing and progressive sections of the commonwealth, as well as his official relations with the administration of the public affairs of the county honored by his citizenship.

Richard Montgomery was born in Patoka township, Gibson county, Indiana, about three miles west of his father's old homestead, on September 18, 1839. His parents were Greenberry and Eliza (Fitzgerald) Montgomery, the father born at Owensville, Indiana, and the mother in Patoka township. The subject's paternal grandfather, James Montgomery, was a native of Kentucky, as was his wife, and they were among the early settlers in Gibson county, locating near Owensville. Here the father, who was a farmer, secured a tract of wild land, which he cleared and which he developed into a splendid farm. To them were born the following children, Mack, Richard, James, Greenberry, America, who became the wife of John Baker; Martha, who became the wife of Peter Smith; Jane, the wife of Frank Daugherty, and Polly, the wife of John Robb. Greenberry Montgomery was reared on his father's farm and had but little opportunity to attend school. On attaining mature years he bought a tract of wild land in Patoka township, which he cleared and there created a comfortable home, owning two hundred and sixty acres of land. He was a hard-working man and his wife, who was a woman of large and powerful physique, did nearly as much

manual labor as he did in the work of clearing the land and putting it into crop. They were well known and highly respected in the community, where they resided during the remainder of their lives. Mr. Montgomery was a Whig in politics in early life, but later became identified with the Republican party. Their children were as follows: James, deceased, was a farmer in Patoka township, and married Nancy Griffin; John, deceased, married first Sarah Perkins; second, Bessie Pritchett, and third, Maggie Barnett; William, deceased, was a farmer in Patoka township, married Anna Woods, who now lives in that township; he was a veteran of the Civil war; Thomas, who lives on a part of the old homestead in Patoka township, and who was a veteran of the Civil war, married Delia Kinelly; Willis, deceased, married Lizzie Forker; Parmelia, deceased, was twice married, first to Sanderson Emberton, and second to James Woods; Victoria is the wife of Robert Corn, of Evansville, Indiana; Martha is the wife of L. Olmstead, of Patoka township, this county; Nora, deceased, was the wife of Charles Florica; Richard, the subject of this sketch.

Richard Montgomery was deprived of the opportunity of securing a school education in his youth, his early years being given unremittingly to the work of the home farm, where he remained until his marriage in 1861. He and his wife then lived on the old homestead in Patoka township until August 9, 1862, when he enlisted as a private in Company A, Eightieth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, his wife going to stay with her own people while he was out in the defense of his country. He was first sent to Evansville, where he joined his regiment, and then back to Princeton and on to Covington, Kentucky. The command was sent from there to Louisville, and then to Perryville, where they took part in an engagement with the enemy on October 8, 1862. The Eightieth Regiment was assigned to the First Brigade, Twenty-third Army Corps, with which they took part in the battles of Perrysville, Marrow Bone, Kingston, Tennessee, Mossy Creek, Buzzard Roost, Resaca, Dallas Hills, Lost Mountain, Kenesaw Mountain, siege of Atlanta, which lasted from July 19 to August 9, 1864, Lovejoy Station, Boone Gap, Franklin, Fort Anderson, North Carolina, Washington and Goldsboro, North Carolina, and on June 2, 1865, Mr. Montgomery was honorably discharged from the service, being paid off at Indianapolis. During his period of service he traveled eight thousand two hundred and forty-six miles, two thousand fifty by water, twenty-four hundred and forty-five by rail and thirty-seven hundred and fifty on foot. After his return from the war, Mr. Montgomery bought a part of the old homestead of Johnson

Fitzgerald, and here he and his wife established a home and carried on farming successfully until 1905, when they sold the farm and retired from active labor, now living at No. 618 South Hall street, Princeton. They are both remarkably well preserved physically and are now situated to enjoy life to the utmost. Mr. Montgomery has gone through some trying experiences, but despite his army hardships and strenuous labor required in his life work as a farmer, he has come to the sunset of life's journey well preserved, and is now prepared to quietly enjoy the remaining years of his life.

On October 3, 1861, Mr. Montgomery was married to Mary Jane Alsop, who was born east of Owensville, Indiana, the daughter of Reuben and Willie Ann (Smith) Alsop. Her father, who was a native of Gibson county, Indiana, died in 1844, and his widow afterward became the wife of Johnson Fitzgerald, of Virginia, who was a veteran of the Indian wars, having served in the battle of Tippecanoe. He came to Gibson county in 1810, settling in Patoka township, and died in 1886, at the age of seventy-six years. He was one of the foremost and most enterprising men of his period and was the owner of one of the first saw and grist mills in this locality, being run by water power. He was also a successful farmer and was widely known throughout southern Indiana. Mrs. Montgomery was the only child born to her parents. To Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery have been born eight children, namely: Martha Jane is the wife of Thomas Wright, of Fort Branch, and they have one child, Loren; Lorenzo, who is engaged with the Southern Railroad Company at Baldwin Heights, married Minnie Newberry, and they have one child, Roy; Emma is the widow of Major Wright, of Baldwin Heights, and is the mother of three children, Bessie, Otto and Jesse; Pearl lives at Harrison, Arkansas; Justus Elmer and Jesse Ellis are twins; the former, who is a farmer in Patoka township, married Nannie Powers, and they have three children, Roscoe, Willis and Harvey G.; Jesse Ellis, who lives in Patoka township, married Florence Embree, and they have four children, Gertrude, Mildred, Richard and John; John Montgomery died in youth; Grace is the wife of James A. Lhuring, of Princeton, Indiana, and they have one child, Thelma Laverne.

Politically, Mr. Montgomery is a stanch Republican, while, religiously, he and his wife are members of the Baptist church, belonging to the White church in Patoka township. At one time Mr. Montgomery was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic at Princeton. In all the essential elements of good citizenship Mr. Montgomery is a man among men and by his earnest life, sturdy integrity and strict regard for the highest ethics he has

earned and retains the warm regard of all who know him. He gives his support to every movement which promises to be of material or moral benefit to the people, and because of his success in life and his genuine worth he is eminently entitled to representation in this work.

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### JOHN K. PEOPLES.

It is an axiom demonstrated by human experience that industry is the keynote of prosperity. Success comes not to the man who idly waits, but to the faithful toiler whose work is characterized by sleepless vigilance and cheerful celerity, and it has been by such means that John K. Peoples, popular and enterprising groceryman of Princeton, has forged to the front and won an honorable place among the substantial citizens of Gibson county.

John K. Peoples was born in Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, December 5, 1875, the son of William and Melvina L. (Carithers) Peoples. The father was a native of Ireland and emigrated to the United States when he was seventeen years of age, coming direct from the East to Princeton, where he settled and followed agriculture and the mercantile business until his death, which occurred in 1895 in Princeton. The subject's mother is still living, residing on East State street in Princeton.

The early education of the subject was acquired in the common and high schools of his native city, and on reaching mature years he was employed as a clerk in a grocery store, which occupation he followed until 1900, when he engaged in business on his own account. His establishment was located in the building in which was formerly E. P. Downey's grocery. By constant attention to details and by exercising a desire to please his patrons, Mr. Peoples has built up a large and profitable trade, always keeping on hand the best goods in every line, choosing rather to refuse to buy goods of an inferior quantity than to attempt to sell such to his customers. Following out this policy of serving his patrons with dependable merchandise, the subject has gained a reputation for himself that may well be envied. A grocery stock valued at from four to five thousand dollars is carried, in addition to a line of chinaware.

On June 29, 1911, Mr. Peoples was united in the bonds of matrimony to Anna McConaley, daughter of A. L. and Martha (Stormont) McConaley, old settlers in the community and both still living in the county. To the subject and wife has been born one child, Eloise V.

Mr. Peoples is a member of the Reformed Presbyterian church. He and his family live at No. 323 East State street in Princeton, where they have a very comfortable and hospitable home, over which Mrs. Peoples presides in a praiseworthy manner, making their home the center of a happy social circle.

The qualities which have made Mr. Peoples one of the prominent and successful men of Princeton have also brought him the esteem of his fellow townsmen, for, although comparatively a young man, his career has been one of well-directed energy, strong determination and honorable methods, and he is an excellent representative of the wide-awake, enterprising and successful American business man.

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#### DAVID A. DAVISON.

In nearly every community are individuals who, by innate ability and sheer force of character, rise above their fellows and win for themselves conspicuous places in public esteem. Such an one is the well-known gentleman whose name appears above, a man who has been identified with the history of Gibson county for a number of years, during which period his life has been closely interwoven with the material growth and development of his county, while his career as a progressive man of affairs has been synonymous with all that is upright and honorable in citizenship.

David A. Davison was born in Marshall, Illinois, on March 11, 1866, son of Reese and Catharine (Wayrick) Davison, the father being a native of Ohio and the mother of Virginia. The father was a farmer throughout his active years and still lives in Clark county, Illinois. He was born in 1830 and his wife in 1828. Both are faithful and earnest members of the Methodist church, and enjoy the respect of the entire community in which they live. They were the parents of eight children, of whom six are living, namely: George P., of Terre Haute, Indiana; Lyman L., of Los Angeles, California; Burns U., an attorney of Marshall, Illinois; John H., a druggist at Marshall; Charles D., a farmer in Clark county, Illinois, and David A., the subject of this sketch. The latter received his elementary education in the public schools of Marshall, Illinois, later attending the Indiana State Normal School at Terre Haute. Then, having determined to take up the veterinary profession as his life work, he became a student in Chicago Veterinary College, where he graduated in 1892, receiving the degree of Doctor



W. J. Davison





of Veterinary Science. He immediately entered upon active practice of his profession at Marshall, Illinois, where he remained for six years, and then he came to Princeton, establishing himself here on May 28, 1898. He has been successful in his profession here to an unusual degree, and enjoys a wide-spread reputation as a successful veterinarian, being called to many parts aside from his home town in the practice of his profession. He has erected a fine two-story brick hospital, into which he moved on June 15, 1907, and which is finely equipped in every respect for the treatment of horse diseases, including an operating table, foot tub and an elevator to lift the horses to the second story. For about a year Doctor Davison was the proprietor of a drug store here, which is now known as the H. G. May store.

On May 27, 1891, Doctor Davison was married to Alice M. Harris, of Marshall, Illinois, daughter of Milton and Mary E. Harris, and to them have been born three children, Marie, Burns H. and Helen.

Politically, Doctor Davison is an ardent Republican and in November, 1909, he was elected mayor of Princeton, assuming the duties of his office on January 3rd, following. As mayor, Doctor Davison has won some hard-fought battles, some of which terminated in the court, but he has had the satisfaction of winning in each instance. He has been impartial in enforcing the law, knowing neither friend nor foe, and has been unrelenting in his pursuit of wrong doing and vice of every nature. His police court has been conducted in an impartial manner and, though he has had some opposition and has actually created some enmity, he is now strong in the confidence and esteem of the best element of the populace. Fraternally, he is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Tribe of Ben-Hur. Mrs. Davison and the children are members of the United Presbyterian church. The Doctor has taken an active part in affairs affecting his profession and served as treasurer of the Ohio Valley Veterinary Association for seven years, and is fourth vice-president of the Indiana Municipal League. As a man, Doctor Davison is easily the peer of any of his fellow citizens in all that constitutes upright living and correct citizenship. He is a close and intelligent observer and takes pains to keep himself well informed upon current events. He is quiet in demeanor, a thinker and a man of action rather than words. He is essentially a man of the people, because he has large faith in humanity and is optimistic in all of his views. The high esteem in which he is held by the people of his community is a worthy tribute to so successful a man, and he deserves a conspicuous place on the roster of Gibson county's progressive and representative citizens.

## CAPT. JAMES H. BALLARD.

It should be a source of gratification to us if we can point to our ancestors and say that their reputations were always above the reproach of their fellow men, their careers being free from the shadow of wrong or the suspicion of evil. This Capt. James H. Ballard can do, although he modestly refrains from any undue laudation of his family history, but those who are conversant with the facts regarding this sterling old Virginia stock will not hesitate to speak of their good qualities and their honorable lives.

James H. Ballard was born August 17, 1838, in Albemarle county, Virginia, the son of Thomas and Lucy B. (Duke) Ballard. Thomas Ballard was born in the same county in Virginia as his son James, on a farm settled on by the subject's great-grandfather. Mr. Ballard retains possession of the original deed to the land, signed by Robert Dinwiddie, of Virginia, a governor in colonial times, the document being dated 1752. The subject's father was a farmer and flour mill man and in the early days a slaveholder. He died at Pittsylvania Court House, Virginia, in 1873, his wife passing away at the old home place three years previous.

Captain Ballard was educated in the common schools of Virginia and was attending the Mossy Creek College when his health failed and he was compelled to relinquish his studies, thereafter engaging in the collection business for two years, at the end of which time, on May 11, 1861, he enlisted in Company K, Second Virginia Cavalry, which was a part of Gen. Robert E. Lee's army. Mustered in as a private, the subject soon was commissioned captain and with his company took part in many of the great battles of the war, among them the battle at Manassas, the Valley campaign with Jackson, the Seven Days' fighting around Richmond, Fredericksburg, the Wilderness, Seven Forks, Winchester and Five Forks. The Captain was three times wounded. One horse was shot to death under him and two others wounded. At the battle of Five Forks he received a severe wound in the shoulder, which compelled him to retire from the service of the Confederacy. On returning to his home, Captain Ballard was appointed deputy internal revenue collector and served in that capacity and as chief deputy marshal for fourteen years, at the expiration of which time he removed to Knoxville, Tennessee, and engaged in the dairy business for three years, then going to Texas, remaining in the Lone Star state until 1896. Going to Fort Smith, Arkansas, in the latter year, he accepted the position of clerk in the Grand Central hotel at that place, which position he resigned after a short

term of service to accept a position in the clerical and collection department of the Princeton Water Company, in which capacity he was employed until his retirement.

On May 18, 1863, Captain Ballard was married to Sarah A. Whitehead, and to this union were born eight children, as follows: Jimmie Lee is a railroad man employed in the shops at Knoxville, Tennessee; Ellis R. met his death in a railway accident at Roanoke City, Virginia; Robert is a minister of the Methodist Episcopal faith at Crossville, Tennessee; Fred was a non-commissioned officer in the United States army in the war with Spain, and was killed in Porto Rico; two children died in infancy; Henry lives at Knoxville, Tennessee, and is a railroad man; Douglas is employed in the railroad shops at Princeton.

Captain Ballard was married on May 18, 1905, to Mary E. Fentriss, daughter of James H. and Johanna (Skinner) Fentriss. James H. Fentriss was born and reared in Princeton, was a harness-maker and served his county as recorder for four years. He was the father of four children, all of whom are living. Fraternally, he was affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in early life, while he was a supporter of the Democratic party.

Captain Ballard has been a Republican in politics, but has never let his allegiance to that party interfere with his judgment when it came to a choice of what he considered the best men for any office. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Masonic order, and is a consistent member of the First Methodist Episcopal church.

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### JAMES W. LEWIS.

What a wonderful heritage a man gives his children, in passing from this life, when he leaves behind him a knowledge of an active life well spent and evidences of the good he had accomplished for his age and community. To be considered the foremost man of his county in his day, a leader in all things pertaining to the welfare of the community, does not fall to the lot of many men, and only those who are truly great in heart and mind, of indomitable energy and unfailing optimism, are capable of winning the trust and confidence which places them in the leadership in matters of public good, especially in a new section. This cheering knowledge is possessed by the children of Andrew Lewis, among them being the subject of this sketch.

James W. Lewis first saw the light of day in the old Lagow House at Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, on December 22, 1846, his father being owner and proprietor of the Lagow House at that time. Mr. Lewis is the son of Andrew and Eliza A. (Evans) Lewis. Andrew Lewis was a native of Pennsylvania, having been born in Lewisberry, that state, which town was founded by his paternal grandfather, Eli Lewis, an old and honored physician. Eli Lewis has placed himself on record in the history of his state, by giving to the town he founded his family name.

The subject of this sketch has additional cause for pride in his ancestors in the fact that his mother was a niece of Gen. Robert M. Evans, who founded the city of Evansville, Indiana, although she was born and reared in Princeton. General Evans was quite active in the early military affairs of the state, when the red men were constantly annoying the whites. Grandfather Evans was in the battle of Tippecanoe, being wounded there, which eventually caused his death in 1836.

Andrew Lewis, father of the subject, came to Gibson county, Indiana, from his native state of Pennsylvania, in either the year 1842 or 1843, the exact date not being known. He was twice married, his first wife being Jane Ann McCann, a native of Pennsylvania. To this union was born one daughter, who is Mrs. Adeline M. Thornton, of Washington, D. C. For many years Andrew Lewis engaged in the practice of medicine, winning the hearts of his patrons through his skill and sincere interest in them. He took an active interest in politics, so far as his other duties permitted, and served as clerk of Gibson county for one term. Being a man of keen enterprise and foresight, he saw an opportunity in handling grain, and for a time gave his attention to the flour-mill business and buying and selling of grain.

Having at an early date become identified with the leading movements of his community, the project of the old Wabash and Erie canal strongly appealed to him and he gave of his time and ability toward its accomplishment. He was much interested in railroading, then in its earliest infancy, and always being anxious to obtain for his adopted part of the country all advantages possible at that time, he became one of the projectors of the old "Air Line" or Southern Railroad, being, in fact, one of the original contractors who built a portion of the road.

There are today in Princeton many landmarks which stand as monuments to the memory of this versatile man, and it is with regret that we record that he lost a fortune of six hundred thousand dollars in railroad

contracting. Among other works in Princeton, his fine residence and the Zenith mill still remain.

Mr. Lewis was in every respect a man worthy of the name, and as "man is the noblest work of God," his useful life was surely pleasing to his Creator. He departed this life March 10, 1877, regretted by all who knew him and admired by many who had never had the pleasure of a personal acquaintance. He left his wife and five children, the eldest being James W., subject of this sketch; Malissa J., who married Robert Douglas, formerly in the book business in Indianapolis, and who is now dead; Rankin E., who makes his home at the Columbia Club in Indianapolis; Andrew, who resides here in Princeton and is cashier of the American Trust Company, and William H., who lives in Indianapolis. Mrs. Andrew Lewis survived her husband not quite two years, passing away November 4, 1878, a fitting wife for such a man.

James W. Lewis attended the public schools of Princeton until the age of fifteen. At that time the Civil war broke out and, notwithstanding his tender years, he was so fired with patriotism and so anxious to take up arms that his father sent him from home, hoping the novelty of his surroundings in the boarding school he had selected at Fergusonville, New York, would cool his ardor to a degree suitable to his years. This had the desired effect for a time, but after one year East, he returned home and, in spite of parental objection, he entered the ranks of the boys in blue, enlisting in Company C, Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and saw eighteen months of service. He was with Sherman when the Union forces were working their way to Atlanta, driving the Confederates before them, and made one of the number in that memorable march to the sea; thence back up through the Carolinas and on to Washington. He was in the Grand Review in Washington, in May, 1865, when President Lincoln viewed the returning troops and when great crowds of cheering spectators lined the streets. After the war was ended and he had received his honorable discharge, he returned to Princeton, where he has since resided.

On November 4, 1869, Mr. Lewis was married to Anna L. Johnston, daughter of Newton H. and Rachael Johnston, the ceremony occurring in the old Lagow House in which he was born, Mr. Johnston having some time previously purchased this hostelry from Andrew Lewis. Mr. Johnson was a native of Meadville, Pennsylvania, who had come west to Evansville, Indiana, and from there to Princeton.

Three children have been born to James W. and Anna L. (Johnston)

Lewis, the oldest being Alice M., wife of J. O. Sevedge, who makes her home with her father; James F., who resides in Princeton and who took as his wife Lilly Redmon; and the youngest, Harold W., also of Princeton, who married Delia Milburn, and they have one child, sole grandchild of the family.

James W. Lewis is a worthy son of his father and has filled positions of trust. For four years he served as deputy sheriff and for ten years was claim agent and special man for the Southern Railroad. He has now retired from public interests, devoting himself to the management of his farming interests, comprising two hundred and forty acres in Center township, Gibson county, and other properties elsewhere, all of which attest his sound business judgment and integrity.

Mr. Lewis holds no fraternal affiliations other than the honored Grand Army of the Republic, and, as might be expected, politically is a staunch Republican of the old school. Such families as that of which Mr. Lewis is a member stand for the highest and best in any community, advocates of all that makes life most worth living, incentives and examples to those of less favored parentage and early training.

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#### PHILIP M. ANDERSON.

The gentleman whose life history the biographer here takes under review is one of those strong, sturdy characters who has contributed largely to the welfare of the community where he lives, being a man of more than ordinary sagacity and foresight, and as a citizen, public spirited and progressive in all that the term implies. He is a native of the Hoosier state, having been born at Madison, Jefferson county, on April 7, 1832. He is the son of Wilson and Ann (Monroe) Anderson, both of whom were natives of the state of Kentucky, born near Lexington. When yet children they were both brought to Gibson county, Indiana, by their parents, where they grew to maturity. To their union were born ten children. Three died in infancy and Mary, Nancy and Serilda died after reaching years of maturity. Cynthia is still living in Terre Haute, Indiana, at the advanced age of ninety-five years; James lives in Vincennes, Indiana; John resides at Oakland City, Indiana, and Philip, the immediate subject of this sketch, has for some years past made his home in Princeton. He is the oldest son and the fifth child in the

family. Wilson Anderson, the father, in his young manhood secured a tract of wild land, and then began the laborious task of clearing it and getting it under cultivation. In this he was ably assisted by his faithful wife and together they endured the hardships and grinding toil, the lot of the pioneers, winning a home and subsistence from the reluctant soil, and there their large family was reared. All his life was passed on a farm. Eventually he disposed of his interests in Jefferson county and removed to Gibson county, where he died at the age of ninety-four years, well known and respected by all. He was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church and a staunch Democrat. He took an active interest in politics, although he never aspired to any office.

Philip M. Anderson, when young, had only the limited opportunity for education possible to the children of the rural districts at that time. He attended the subscription schools of his neighborhood, receiving sound elementary training, largely supplemented by reading and study in later years. He remained at home with his father until twenty-one years of age.

Mr. Anderson was first married in February, 1857, to Mary Beavers, a native of Virginia, daughter of John Beavers, also of Virginia, who had come to Jefferson county, Indiana, at an early date, where he and his wife passed the remainder of their lives. He was a farmer. Two children were born to Philip and Mary (Beavers) Anderson: Martha Ann, who married John Harlan, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and who has three children, William, Monroe and Walter; and Minnie E., wife of David E. Smith, a carpenter of Princeton. To them were born three children: Fred, living in Princeton; Minnie, stenographer with the Southern Railroad Company at Princeton, and a child who died in infancy. Mary Beavers Anderson died in 1866.

In 1867 Mr. Anderson was married to Martha J. Mills, of Princeton, her father being a native of Maine. She died in the spring of 1890. Mr. Anderson's third wife was Julia Zimmerman, daughter of John Zimmerman, of Gibson county.

In 1858, the year after his first marriage, Mr. Anderson came to Gibson county, Indiana. He was a cooper by trade when a young man and later took up carpentry, at which he worked for several years. His wife inherited a farm in Washington township, Gibson county, on which he lived for eight years, when he removed to Princeton and has retired from active life.

Mr. Anderson is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He was at the front eighteen months during the Civil War. A member of Company E, Forty-second Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, he was sent with



his command to Evansville, later to Henderson, Kentucky, and on to Nashville and into Alabama under command of General Buell. He was neither sick nor wounded while in service.

Mr. Anderson's religious sympathies are with the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he has been a member for many years. In all the affairs of life Mr. Anderson has proved himself an honorable and upright man, well posted on the affairs of his day and thoroughly worthy of the high esteem in which he is held by his many warm friends in Gibson county.

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### LUCIUS C. EMBREE.

No compendium such as the province of this work defines in its essential limitations will serve to offer a fit testimonial to the life and accomplishments of Lucius C. Embree, who for a long lapse of years has been one of the best known legal lights in southern Indiana—a man notable for the breadth of his wisdom, his indomitable perseverance, his strong individuality, and yet one whose entire life has not one esoteric phase, being able to bear the closest scrutiny. His entire accomplishment but represents the result of the fit utilization of the innate talent which is his, and the directing of those efforts along lines where mature judgment and rare discrimination have led the way. There is in Mr. Embree a weight of character, a native sagacity, a far-seeing judgment and a fidelity of purpose that has commanded the respect of all, and today he stands in the very front rank of his profession in Indiana. Mr. Embree has had the advantage of being the son of a man of affairs, also a lawyer by profession, an officer of rank in the Civil war and a leading man in his community all his life.

Lucius C. Embree is the son of James Thomas and Mary Magdalene (Landis) Embree, a native of Staunton, Virginia, and was born September 8, 1853, in Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana. The family is identified with the earliest history of Gibson county, and throughout its generations have been among the foremost citizens. Joshua Embree, great-grandfather of the immediate subject of this sketch, came to Gibson county from Lincoln county, Kentucky, in 1811. He was a farmer and died the first year of his residence in Gibson county. His will was the first ever probated in this county.

Elisha Embree, grandfather of Lucius C. Embree, was also born in Lincoln county, Kentucky, and came to Indiana with his father in 1811. He, too, was an agriculturist and also a lawyer. He was judge in the circuit





LUCIUS C. EMBREE.



court of Gibson county from 1835 to 1845. His wife was Eleanor Robb, daughter of David Robb, a prominent pioneer of Gibson county, a member of the constitutional convention and also of the state Senate. They reared a family of four children: James T.; David F., who became a prominent lawyer in Princeton and died in 1877; Maria Louisa and Milton P. The family was brought up in the tenets of the Methodist Episcopal church, and for many years Elisha Embree was superintendent of the Sunday school of his church. He was prominent in the politics of Gibson county in his day, and in 1847 defeated Robert Dale Owen for Congress. He received the Whig nomination for governor of the state of Indiana in 1849 on declining to run again for Congress, but was defeated owing to the district being against him politically. At the outbreak of the Civil war he took a keen interest in the various questions of the day and greatly regretted his advanced age, which prohibited him from active service. During the time he was a member of Congress, he made the acquaintance of Abraham Lincoln, and together with him, Elihu B. Washburn and others, lived at the same boarding house. Upon his retirement from the bench in 1845 he discontinued the practice of law until in 1852, at which time he and his son, James T. (father of Lucius C. Embree), opened up offices together and in this connection they continued until his death in 1862. His was an honorable and upright life, greatly dignifying and uplifting the community at large.

James T. Embree, father of Lucius C. Embree, was born and raised in Gibson county. He was a graduate of Asbury College, now DePauw University, and also of the law department of the Indiana State University at Bloomington. He began the practice of law in Princeton in 1852 and continued same until the commencement of the Civil war, when he went to the front as major of the Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served until compelled to resign on account of ill health. His interest in the cause, however, did not diminish and he gave valuable assistance in raising troops. This service brought him into contact with Oliver P. Morton, then governor of the state, with whom he formed a close personal friendship, as well as with Miles Fletcher, a state officer at that time. Another friendship in which he took much pleasure was that of Hon. Daniel Vorhees and, in spite of the wide divergence of political opinions, they remained warm friends until separated by death. His marriage to Miss Landis occurred in 1852, the year he began the practice of law. To them were born four children: Lucius Conwell; Jessie Fremont, who died at the age of five, July 30, 1861; Samuel Landis, who died January 24, 1903; and Elisha Robb, whose death occurred

February 21, 1898. Mrs. Embree died on July 21, 1863, and for his second wife Mr. Embree chose Louisa Catherine Lockhart, by whom he had one daughter, who is now Mrs. Eleanor Houts, of San Francisco, California. Mr. Embree's death occurred August 3, 1867. He was a worthy son of his excellent father and at all times gave his influence to whatever cause advanced the public welfare of his community.

Lucius C. Embree received his elementary education in the public schools of Princeton, graduating from the high school. He then attended Earlham College, at Richmond, Indiana, for a short time, later spending some time in study at Asbury College at Greencastle, Indiana, and then matriculated in the law school of the University of Virginia. On August 10, 1877, he began the practice of law in Princeton together with James E. McCullough, now assistant attorney-general of the state of Indiana. After this partnership was severed, he practiced alone for a number of years, later entering into partnership with Martin W. Fields, which partnership continued for one year. He had later associated with him Willis P. Howe, now deceased, and also Luther Benson. Since 1907 he has practiced together with his son Morton and they maintain an interesting partnership. However, the greater amount of his time in his profession has been spent alone. By friends he has been induced to serve on the school board, which service has been appreciated by all.

On December 29, 1880, Mr. Embree joined in wedlock with Luella Casey, daughter of William J. and Charlotte M. Casey, of Patoka, Indiana. Four children have been born to them: James Casey, who is a civil engineer, associated with the Canadian & Northern Pacific railroad in British Columbia; Morton Casey, attorney and partner of his father; Louise and Clotilde, who remain at home. Mr. Embree is a member of the time-honored order of Free and Accepted Masons. All his life he has endorsed the principles of the Republican party and stands as an advocate of purity in politics as well as in all other relations of life.

There is particular interest attached to the study of the life history of such a man as the subject of this sketch, not only for the clean record he himself presents, but it is highly gratifying to trace a family history back through the years and find in each life reviewed an enviable record, to know that each in his day stood for the highest type of manhood and did all in his power to advance the interests of those about him less favorably situated than himself. Any locality derives its reputation from that of its representative citizens and for many generations Gibson county has been thus indebted to the various members of the family of Embree.

## ANDREW JACKSON MILLER.

Dependent very largely upon his own resources from his early youth, the man whose name heads this paragraph has attained no insignificant success, and though he may have, like most men of affairs, encountered obstacles and met with reverses, he has pressed steadily forward, ever willing to work for the end he had in view. His tenacity and fortitude are due, no doubt, in a large measure, to the worthy traits inherited from his sterling ancestors, whose high ideals and correct principles he has ever sought to perpetuate in all the relations of life.

Andrew Jackson Miller was born May 28, 1834, in Jackson county, Indiana, son of Isaac and Ann (Settle) Miller, she a native of Nelson county, Kentucky. The father was born in Jackson county, Indiana, in 1803, and was a son of Abraham Miller, who was born in Pennsylvania, and whose father was Peter Miller, who took part in the Boston Tea Party, famous in the early history of the colonies. When quite a young man, Abraham Miller left his home in Pennsylvania and journeyed to Kentucky, where he met and married Peggy Miller and together they came to Jackson county, Indiana, being numbered among its early pioneers. They obtained government land which they cleared and on which they lived the remainder of their lives. Abraham Miller was at Fort Vallonia during the Pigeon Roost massacre, being at that fort for two years, and was also in the battle of Tippecanoe. To him and his wife were born nine children: Frederick, Thomas, Isaac (father of the immediate subject of this sketch), Perry, Washington, Jackson, Lucinda, Kate and Ermilla.

Isaac Miller passed his entire life in Jackson county, Indiana. When a boy he had no opportunity whatever for acquiring education and when quite young began work on a farm and continued this vocation through life. On September 19, 1830, he and Ann Settle were united in wedlock and to them were born five children, namely: Susan Mary, deceased; Andrew Jackson, subject of this sketch; Margaret and Harriet (twins). Harriet died in 1856 and Margaret, widow of Isaac Durham, resides in Daviess county, Indiana; Susan, the youngest child, is the widow of William Critchfield and lives in Jackson county. Isaac Miller and wife were faithful members of the Baptist church. Mr. Miller affiliated with no political party, but always voted independently, his choice being the man and his principles rather than any party platform. His death occurred in December, 1874, and his wife passed from life January 31, 1879.

Andrew Jackson Miller when a boy had only limited opportunity for schooling and remained on the home place until eighteen years of age. On February 14, 1858, he was united in marriage to Elenore Daily Applegate, who was born in Jackson county February 21, 1832, the daughter of Philip D. and Elizabeth (Burge) Applegate. He was born June 17, 1809, and she was born August 12, 1801. Their marriage was solemnized December 25, 1828. She was a native of Jackson county, while he was born in Charleston, Clark county, Indiana. He was a famous hunter in his community and when a boy of nine years, with an old-fashioned flint lock gun, he killed two deer with one shot. When a young man he went to Jackson county, Indiana, where he obtained government land and settled down to the life of a farmer. His home was near that of William Cody, known to the world as "Buffalo Bill," and they often hunted together. Later on he sold dry goods throughout the county and also owned a drug store at Vallonia, Indiana. He died September 5, 1899, having been a widower for a number of years. His wife died in March, 1864. He was a descendant of one of the six Applegate brothers who crossed to the new world in the "Mayflower" and later settled in Philadelphia. Philip D. Applegate and wife were the parents of seven children, as follows: Margaret, born October 29, 1829, married Robert Kelly, of Jackson county, Indiana. Elenore D., born February 21, 1832. Hezekiah, born May 19, 1834, who was killed during the Civil war. At the battle of Kenesaw Mountain, while carrying water to the sick and wounded on the battlefield, he was picked off by a sharp-shooter. He was a member of Company B, Twenty-second Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was a corporal at the time of his death. The fourth child was Charlotte, born November 9, 1836, who married Joseph Brown, and when widowed later became the wife of Frederick Rush. She died November 9, 1875. John B. was born January 8, 1839. He was in the Tenth Indiana Cavalry and after the close of the war he went to Gandy, Nebraska, where he purchased a farm. Polly Ann was born June 19, 1841, and died March 12, 1873, the wife of John Stephens. Elizabeth was born January 19, 1844, and died March 16, 1863.

After their marriage, in 1858, Andrew Jackson Miller and wife settled down to farming in Jackson county. He also was a keeper of bees and disposed of a considerable amount of honey. He bought the patterns of the Langstroth bee hives and made and sold them quite extensively for a time. During the war he was in poor health and was drafted for service, but upon examination he was rejected and sent home in sixty days. In 1870 he re-

moved his family to Gibson county, where he has since resided, farming in different parts of the county. To this couple were born seven children, namely: William Otto, a farmer living at Princeton, whose wife was Mary Hall, and to whom have been born three children, Walter, Elenore and Martha; Leander Everett, who died October 9, 1892, at the age of thirty-two years. He was a switchman on a railroad; Fidelia, wife of James H. Guthrie, hardware merchant of Princeton; Elizabeth, wife of L. E. Kell, a contractor, of Princeton, and who is the mother of six children, Ralph, Alexander, Andrew, Paul, Cornelia and Gertrude. Ann, wife of Robert McCree, a farmer of Patoka township; Ivy Elenore, who has always resided at home, and John Andrew, a conductor on the Rock Island railway, whose home is at Goodland, Kansas. He married Belle Williams and they are the parents of two children, Jackson and Virginia.

Politically, Mr. Miller gives his support to the Republican party, although in no sense has he ever been a seeker after office. His religious affiliation is with the Christian church, to which he gives a liberal support. On February 14, 1908, Mr. and Mrs. Miller celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage and she lived but a short time after that, her death occurring on August 25th of the same year. Mr. Miller has led an industrious and well regulated life, thereby gaining the respect and admiration of his fellow citizens and is most worthy of representation in a biographical work of the scope intended in the present one. Genial and unassuming in his relations with his fellow men, he has won and retains the confidence and good will of all with whom he comes in contact.

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#### FRANCIS M. THOMPSON.

The Thompson family trace their genealogy back through to the tribe of Benjamin, which was one of the tribes of the children of Israel. From Norway they emigrated to Ireland about 1056, and later to Scotland, where they became a well known family. John, Charles and Richard, three members of a large family, and the only ones of which we have a record, were born in Dublin, Ireland, a few years before the outbreak of the French Revolution in 1789. Richard had military training and entered the English army as a general. His previous training helped him to get the high appointment.

John ran away from home on account of his father refusing to let him marry and went to England while too young to join the army, but on account of his brother, Richard, being general, he was taken into the service. He and his brother served through the Napoleonic wars and shortly afterward John returned to his home in Dublin. Richard came to America a few years before the Revolutionary war came to an end. John and Charles came a few years later and all three brothers served in the war of the Revolution. Richard was under Gen. George Washington, but he never met John and Charles, who also served during the latter part of this great struggle. During the war John and Charles became separated and never saw each other again. The great-grandfathers of Francis M. Thompson and his wife both died about eight years after the close of the war of the Revolution and were buried in the national cemetery in Dayton, Ohio. His son, John, of whom the Thompson family in Gibson county are descendants, was of Scotch-Irish descent. He raised a large family of children, one of which was John Thompson, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch. He was born in Virginia December 19, 1804, and died April 16, 1850. He was a great hunter in his younger days and was a fine marksman. He was presented with a silver-mounted rifle at one time by the governor of Virginia for killing an Indian chief who had caused a great deal of trouble among the white settlers, killing a number of them. He settled first in Virginia near where Richmond now stands. Later he emigrated to Kentucky, settling near Elizabethtown, in Hardin county. He was married to Sarah Garner, February 16, 1825. After his wife's death he lived with his son, John, until his death. John Thompson moved from Kentucky to Illinois, and settled near where Rochester now stands, and lived there a few years, when he moved to Indiana and settled near Crowleyville, this county. Here he lived until January 1, 1847, when they lost nearly everything they had by the high water, known as the January freshet of 1847, and they moved back to Elizabethtown, Kentucky, where his death occurred April 14, 1850. After his death his widow and her children moved to the vicinity of Owensville, this county, where they lived until her death, which occurred February 17, 1886.

Francis M. Thompson, Sr., the son of John Thompson and wife, and father of the subject of this sketch, was born August 28, 1843, near Crowleyville, Indiana, and lived there with his parents until the spring of 1847, when they moved to Elizabethtown, Kentucky, where his boyhood days were spent until he was about sixteen years of age, when the family moved back to the



vicinity of Owensville, Gibson county, Indiana. He married Susannah Elizabeth Fravel, May 28, 1866, and a short time afterwards purchased a farm about three miles north of Owensville, where he spent the remainder of his life. He was a very successful farmer and by his thrift and frugality he became the owner of over three hundred acres of good land before his death, which occurred May 24, 1905. Susannah (Fravel) Thompson was born near Corydon, Harrison county, this state, April 6, 1845, where she lived until she was sixteen years of age, when she came with her parents to Gibson county in 1860. To Mr. and Mrs. Francis M. Thompson, Sr., were born nine children, as follows: William, born July 20, 1867, married Lucinda Mauck; Amanda, September 21, 1869, married Erastus Burkett; Julia, April 10, 1871, married Arthur B. Woods; Laura, January 16, 1873, married W. Columbus Benson; Samuel B., March 12, 1875, married Cora Emerson; Jesse W., November 14, 1877, married Mattie Musick; Francis M., January 19, 1880, married Ethel Tichenor; Ellis, May 5, 1882, married Elsie Yeager, and Elmer Thompson, May 5, 1882, married Flora Redman.

Joseph M. Fravel, the father of Mrs. F. M. Thompson, Sr., was born in Virginia on December 28, 1817, and died on June 13, 1879. He spent his boyhood days under the paternal roof in Virginia and in early life went west to Indiana, settling near Corydon, that state, where he married Mary Ann Simler, whose parents came from near Reading, Pennsylvania, and settled in Harrison county, Indiana, near Corydon. Both families were of German descent. They moved to Gibson county about the year 1860 and settled about four miles northeast of Owensville, where they lived for the remainder of their lives. Mary Ann Simler was born in Harrison county, Indiana, September 14, 1821, and her death occurred on March 3, 1907. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph M. Fravel were the parents of nine children: Joseph A., born February 13, 1859, died on May 14, 1860; John H., November 4, 1848, died March 28, 1854; an infant, born October 10, 1855, who died the same year; William Benjamin, March 29, 1851, died February 27, 1896; Susannah Elizabeth, April 6, 1845, married F. M. Thompson on May 28, 1866; Alice January 6, 1857, married Andrew Jackson Spore; Sarah, December 11, 1846, married James C. Nettleton; Ella, May 28, 1862, married Rhessa K. Spore; Rebecca, who married John Woods.

Francis M. Thompson, Jr., son of Francis M. and Susannah Elizabeth (Fravel) Thompson, was born four miles north of Owensville, Indiana, January 19, 1880. He spent his boyhood on the home farm, attending the

district schools of his neighborhood in the winter seasons, and working on the farm in the summers. He also spent one year in the high school at Owensville. Shortly after his marriage to Ethel Tichenor, the daughter of Willis H. and Louisa (Lucas) Tichenor, on December 24, 1902, he moved to Owensville and started to learn the blacksmith trade with his father-in-law, W. H. Tichenor. Here he remained for eight years and then bought the Lockhart blacksmith shop and went into business for himself. He has all the necessary skill and technical ability for a first-class artisan and has built up his trade until he has all the business he can manage. He is also the agent for the Mitchell wagons and has put a large number of them on the market in this community. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson are the parents of three children, Paul T., Raymond E. and Mary Elizabeth.

Mr. Thompson takes an active interest in fraternity circles and is a valued member of the Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen of America. Although he takes an intelligent interest in political affairs, he has never sought any office from the Democratic party, to which he owes allegiance. He and his wife are both active and loyal members of the Regular Baptist church of Owensville and are deeply interested in all church movements. Mr. Thompson is a quiet and unassuming citizen, well liked by every one with whom he comes in contact, and owes his success to that devoted energy which has always characterized his every-day life. He brings credit to one of the oldest and best known families of the state and is a public-spirited citizen who is an honor to any community.

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### DAVID RILEY STORMONT.

No family in Gibson county's history has occupied a more exalted place in public esteem than the Stormont family and none has more worthily upheld the prestige of an honored family name. Originating in Scotland, the most noteworthy characteristics of that splendid people have been preserved and exemplified by this family through the successive generations, the members of the family having been marked by loyalty, courage, industry and integrity of the highest order, so that the lineal record is one to which the present generation may point with justifiable pride. Several representatives of this family now honor Gibson county with their citizenship, among whom is the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this sketch.



DAVID RILEY STORMONT AND FAMILY.



Samuel Stormont, the emigrant ancestor of the subject, was born in county Antrim, Ireland, and emigrated to the United States during or soon after the war of the Revolution. Before leaving Ireland, the family were granted the following certificate:

"That Samuel Stormont His wife Martha & Son David who is a single person is about to go to South Carolina with His daughter Esther who also is a single person Behaved themselves Soberly & Honestly & may be received into any Christian Society where God in his providence hath ordered his lot. Certified by—

"Willm. James,

"Simon Cameron,

"James Wright,

"Robert Knox."

To Samuel and Martha Stormont were born the following children: David, who married Nancy Boyd; Esther, who became the wife of James Chestnut; Martha, the wife of Samuel Faris; Molly, the wife of Samuel McClure; John, who was married twice, first to Nancy Wilson, and then to Bettie Maybin; William, who married Anna McCulla.

Nancy Boyd, above referred to as the wife of David Stormont, was the daughter of Mary Archer Boyd. The latter walked from her home in Chester district, South Carolina, to Charleston to nurse her husband, who was confined on a prison ship in the harbor there. While she was there, her husband was ordered north to be exchanged, she going with him. He died on the voyage in 1782 and was buried at sea, which recalled a dream he had when crossing the ocean from Ireland to the United States, to the effect that he would die at sea and his body be thrown overboard. During the period when Mary Archer Boyd was nursing her husband, the British and Tories went to her home, where her daughter Nancy, then about nineteen years old, was alone, her brothers being away in the Continental army. The vindictive and inhuman soldiers locked the doors and set fire to the house, but Nancy escaped and slipped away into the woods, where she hid until the British left. During this period her only food was ripe peaches and such milk as she could obtain by slipping away in the dusk of the morning or evening to the cow, which was hidden in a thicket. Nancy Boyd was married to David Stormont about the year 1787 or 1788, and lived in South Carolina until 1810, when the family, accompanied by Nancy's mother, moved to Gibson county, Indiana.

settling on the place still owned by the descendants. A few years afterwards Mary Archer Boyd died and was buried in Archer cemetery, she being the first person buried in that graveyard, which had been given by her brother, Robert Archer, to the Reformed Presbyterian church.

Prior to leaving the South Carolina home, the following certificate was granted to Mrs. Boyd:

"Thus is to Certify that the Bearer hereof Mary Boyd, weadow; is now A regular Member of this society in the Community of old Decenters and is free from publick scandel known to us. Certified By us thus 27th Day of March 1811 Rocky Creek Chester Districk South Carolina.

"James Munford, Eld.

"David Smith, Eld."

"Thus is to Certify that the Bearer hereof, weadow Nancy Stormant, herself and her Daughter Martha Storment is now Regular Members of thus society in the Community of Old Decenters and is free from publick scandel known to us And the Rest of her Children is living Regularly under her care. Certified by us thus 27th day of March 1811 Rocky Creek Chester Districk South Carolina.

"James Munford, Eld.

"David Smith, Eld."

To David and Nancy (Boyd) Stormont the following children were born: Martha, born July 7, 1789; Robert, April 30, 1791; Mary, April 8, 1793; Esther, June 23, 1795; Samuel, August 30, 1797; Nancy Agnes, October 22, 1799; David, August 7, 1802; John, December 29, 1804.

Of these children, David, who was the father of the immediate subject of this sketch, married Mary Hartin, who was born in Chester district, South Carolina, and whose ancestral history is briefly stated as follows: The first of this family of whom there is definite knowledge were Joseph and Mary (Crawford) Hartin, to whom were born Patrick, Isaac, Jacob and George. Of these, Patrick married Margaret Cunningham and to them were born John, Joseph, Jane, Mary and Patrick. Of the latter children, Joseph married Nancy Agnes Stormont, to whom were born the following children: Margaret Jane, who became the wife of Andrew J. Wright; David, who married Elizabeth Brazelton; Mary Marilla, who became the wife of John C. Blair; Rosanna, deceased; Martha Ann, deceased; Nancy Catherine Archer was the wife of Robert Little; Sarah became the wife of John Fisher, and Joseph,

who married Jessie Kerr. To Joseph and Jessie (Kerr) Hartin were born the following children: Mary Duncan, who became the wife of Doris Head; Melville Joseph, who married Ada Smith; John Aden.

The subject's paternal grandfather was a farmer, owning a small farm of forty acres in South Carolina, but, because of his poor health and the fact that he desired that his children should be reared in a non-slaveholding state, he desired to move to the North. However, his death prevented his going, but in 1810 the remaining members of the family moved to Kentucky, making their home with a relative, Mr. Hagwood, who was very good and kind to them. They made the trip to their new home in a one-horse cart. In the spring of 1812 one of the sons, Robert, then seventeen years of age, came to Gibson county, Indiana, locating on a tract of land northwest of Princeton, in Patoka township. Here he put out a small crop and in the fall of that year the other members of the family followed him to the new home. The subject's father, David Stormont, was a lad of ten years when they came to this county and here, amid the pioneer conditions that prevailed, he was reared. He was necessarily denied the opportunities of securing a school education, but, being of a studious disposition and a keen observer, he became a man of wide and accurate general knowledge. He started in life on his own account by farming on land where now stands the Archer cemetery, northwest of Princeton, later locating on land one mile west of there. He started necessarily in a very modest way, first working as an ordinary farm hand for fifty cents a day, and out of this meager wage he managed to save money with which he bought his first land. Though mainly a farmer, he worked at anything that presented itself and assisted in the construction of the old Patoka bridge. He was an industrious and hard-working man, paying attention to his own affairs, and was a man of decided convictions, not believing in voting or holding office as far as he was personally concerned. He was very strict in his habits and was a man of strong religious views, being an earnest member of the Reformed Presbyterian church, in which he was a deacon for many years and otherwise active in the church's various enterprises. A kind husband, loving father and honest citizen, he was universally respected in the community where he lived and labored to goodly ends.

On September 23, 1825, David Stormont married Mary Hartin and to them were born the following children: Nancy Jane, who is now deceased, was born on October 5, 1826; she became the wife of John Hull and they lived in Gibson county. John H., born August 4, 1828, died in 1832. Robert B., born September 16, 1830, died September 20, 1862, unmarried. Mary Ann,

born January 13, 1835, died young. David H., born January 19, 1833, died October 13, 1839. Margaret E., born May 28, 1838, died September 23, 1841. Joseph W., born October 23, 1840, died at Evansville, Indiana, March 5, 1863; he was a member of Company F, Forty-second Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry. Louise Amanda, born April 24, 1843, married John Adams, of Cutler, Illinois, and both are now deceased. David Riley is the immediate subject of this review. Martha Ella, born September 10, 1850, was the wife of Alex McConahy, and they occupied the old homestead northwest of Princeton. The parents of these children are both deceased, the father dying on December 12, 1886, and the mother on February 13, 1874.

David Riley Stormont, familiarly known among his acquaintances by his middle name, was born on October 1, 1847, on the home farm, three miles northwest of Princeton, Indiana. His education was mainly secured in the old log cabin schools of that early period, whose homely equipment was not especially calculated to increase the comfort of the pupils, but where, nevertheless, the rudiments of a good practical education were secured. This training Mr. Stormont supplemented through the years by much reading and habits of close observation, so that he has long been regarded as a man of wide and accurate information along general lines. Reared to the life of a farmer, Mr. Stormont applied himself indefatigably to that vocation and has long been numbered among the representative farmers of his locality. He is today the owner of five hundred acres of splendid land in Patoka township, practically all of which is maintained in the best condition for the various purposes to which applied. He is also the owner of forty acres of land in White River township. In addition to general farming, Mr. Stormont has given much attention to the breeding and raising of live stock, in which he has met with large success. He has handled Clydesdale and Cleveland bay horses, Poland-China hogs and cattle of all kinds. He has always given his personal attention to every detail of his operations and is thoroughly up-to-date and progressive in his methods, so that he has been enabled to achieve the highest results with a minimum expenditure of effort. His farm is well improved in every respect, its general appearance reflecting credit on the owner.

On June 2, 1896, David R. Stormont was united in marriage to Mary E. Lytle, of Center township, this county, and the following year they moved to Princeton, where Mr. Stormont had erected a beautiful home at No. 227 North Seminary street, their present home. Mrs. Stormont's parents were John and Nancy (McIntire) Lytle, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter born near Salem, Indiana. The latter place was their home for a time



after their marriage, but in 1860 they came to Center township, Gibson county, and secured a tract of wild land, which they converted into a splendid farm and made their permanent home. The father, who was born on February 28, 1825, died in Princeton in 1900, and the mother, who was born in 1826, died on December 12, 1904. They were the parents of the following children: Sarah Ann, who died in April, 1905, was the wife of Alex Mooney; John B. died in infancy; Margaret Jane died in 1892; Mary E., Mrs. Stormont. To Mr. and Mrs. Stormont the following children have been born: David Lytle, born May 16, 1897; John Lytle, born February 13, 1899; Daniel Lytle, born July 17, 1900; Nancy Lytle, born January 24, 1902; Mary L., born June 28, 1907; an infant daughter who died on October 1, 1908.

Religiously, Mr. and Mrs. Stormont are members of the Reformed Presbyterian church, to the support of which they are liberal contributors. Not only by reason of the honorable family name which he bears, but more especially because of his own attainments and upright life, Mr. Stormont has earned and retains to a marked degree the confidence and respect of the entire community in which his entire life has been passed. He stands for the best interests of the community, giving his support without reserve to such movements as promise to advance the general welfare, and he is popular among his acquaintances.

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### SAMUEL WOODBURN.

Specific mention is made of many of the worthy citizens of Gibson county within the pages of this work, citizens who have figured in the growth and development of this favored locality and whose interests have been identified with its every phase of progress, each contributing in his sphere of action to the well-being of the community in which he resides and to the advancement of its normal and legitimate growth. Among this number is he whose name appears above, one of the foreign-born citizens of our commonwealth to whose industry and right principles of life the early development of our county and state is largely indebted for its high moral status. Samuel Woodburn is a native of county Antrim, Ireland, where he first saw the light of day on July 20, 1826, the son of Robert and Margaret (Wasson) Woodburn, both natives of the same county. The father was a farmer, and the parents spent their entire lives on their native sod. There were three children in the family, namely: Margaret, deceased; Samuel, subject of this sketch, and William, a farmer residing near Lockport, New York.

Samuel Woodburn received his education in the common schools of Ireland and early took up the work of a farmer. This vocation he followed until in 1847, when he set sail for America, being eleven weeks in crossing the Atlantic. His boat docked at New Orleans and from there he journeyed by boat up the Mississippi and Ohio rivers to Evansville, Indiana, and from thence to Princeton. His long journey was made in company with friends. His earliest employment here was during the construction of the Erie canal, in which he was employed for a time. He later became apprentice to the carpenter's trade, in which he became quite proficient and until he joined the army he worked steadily at this trade. In the fall of 1861 he enlisted in Company D, Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, at Princeton. He was first sent to Louisville and Bardstown, Kentucky, and saw much active service during his enlistment. He was in the battles of Pittsburg Landing, Murfreesboro, Stone River, Chattanooga, Duvall's Station, and other engagements and skirmishes. He was with the Army of the Cumberland. He had many close calls from death during the engagements in which he participated, but came through free from injury. He saw three years of service and received his discharge in July, 1865. After his discharge from the army, he returned to Princeton and again took up his work as a carpenter, at which he continued until he retired.

On November 20, 1856, Mr. Woodburn was united in marriage to Sarah Connor, who was born in Ireland, March 13, 1833. She was a daughter of Thomas Connor, who had emigrated to America and had settled in Vanderburg county, Indiana. To their union were born seven children: Robert, born September 29, 1857, a farmer of Center township, this county, married Belle Makemson. To them have been born six children, Munroe, Ethel, Hettie, Helen, Alva and Frank. The second child is James B., born May 19, 1859, a farmer who resides in Princeton and who married Josie Griffin. William, born July 6, 1861, is a farmer in White River township, this county; Mary J., who has always resided at home; Frank died July 30, 1867; Henry, who resides in Evansville, married Dora Margenkerth and they have three children, Charles and Dorothea (twins) and Sarah E. The seventh child of Mr. Woodburn is Nellie, wife of Frank M. Terry, a traveling salesman of Princeton. Mrs. Woodburn's death occurred August 26, 1893.

Mr. Woodburn's religious sympathies are with the United Presbyterian church, to which he gives liberally of his time and means. He is also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, Post No. 28, of Princeton. Mr. Woodburn is a hale old gentleman, a man of wonderfully rugged constitution,

which has served him well during the many years of hard work he has put in, and he is a man well known in the county. He has made many friends both through his business connections and by reason of his genial personality and universal good nature. He is accounted among the most worthy citizens of Gibson county, one who has always had the best good of the community at heart.

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### MORRIS WATSON, D. D.

The good that a noble character like the Rev. Morris Watson can do in the course of an active life is indeed incalculable and cannot be measured in metes and bounds, in fact, cannot be known until the "last great day, when the trumpet shall sound and the dead shall be raised incorruptible." He has devoted his life to the good of others, has lived an unselfish, helpful and altruistic life, and thousands have been made better and had their life-paths made easier and brighter by having known him. So that today he is eminently entitled to the high esteem in which he is universally held.

Morris Watson was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, the son of Andrew and Margaret Watson. After attending the public schools he was a student in Muskingum College and later in Xenia Theological Seminary, where he completed his studies preparatory to entering the ministry of the Gospel, a career which he had determined upon. His first active pastorate was at the First United Presbyterian church of Burgettstown, Pennsylvania, from which church he was called to the church at Princeton in January, 1911. A man of forceful personality, an effective pulpit speaker, consecrated to the work in which he is engaged, Rev. Watson has impressed himself upon the community with which he is now identified, and enjoys to a marked degree the confidence and respect of all who know him, regardless of sect or profession. He has not only been active in the particular society of which he is the head, but in the general moral and civic affairs of the community he has been a forceful factor. Among the special efforts with which he has been identified was the abolition of the saloons from the city of Princeton, Mr. Watson being at the head of the temperance forces and being materially responsible for the splendid results obtained. His ability is freely recognized, and in 1912 Franklin College, at Easton, Ohio, conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity, an honor richly earned. A man of marked intellectual attainments, exemplary character and public spirit, Reverend Watson has in every respect merited the high esteem in which he is universally held in that locality.

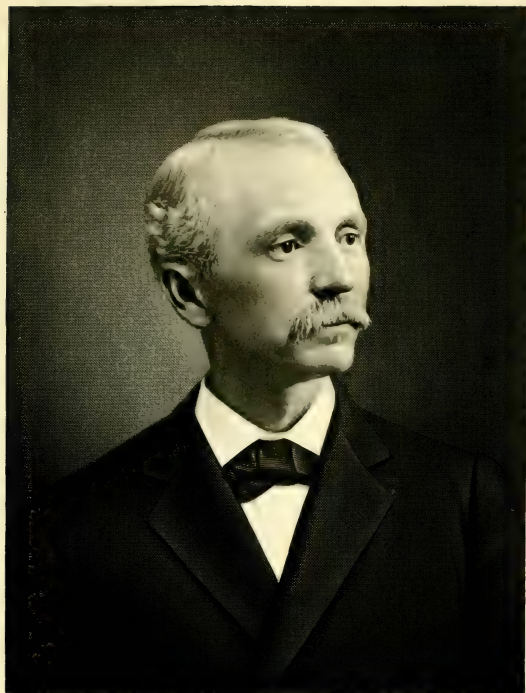
On August 16, 1899, Reverend Watson was married to Florence White, of New Concord, Ohio, and to this union have been born two daughters, Grace and Ruth. Mrs. Watson has proved to her husband a valued helpmate in the religious activities in which he has engaged and because of her graces and excellent qualities of character she has endeared herself to all who know her.

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### SAMUEL E. MUNFORD.

To attain a worthy citizenship by a life that is always honored and respected even from childhood deserves more than mere mention. One may take his place in public life through some vigorous stroke of public policy, and even remain in the hearts of friends and neighbors, but to take the same position by dint of the practice of an upright life, and without a craving for exaltation and popularity, is worthy of the highest praise and commendation. The late Samuel Munford, one of the successful physicians and public-spirited citizens of Princeton, Indiana, who was well known throughout this community, was a man respected and honored, not because of the vigorous training of his special talents, but because of his daily life, each day having been one that was above criticism and passed upon in the light of real, true manhood. Strong and forceful in his relations with his fellow men, he not only made his presence felt, but also gained the good will and commendation of both his associates and the general public, ever retaining his reputation among men for integrity and high character, no matter how trying the circumstances, and never losing that dignity which is the birthright of a gentleman. Consequently his influence for good in the general life of his community was most potent, and he will long be sadly missed from the various circles in which he moved and over which his influence was like sunshine on a field of ripened wheat.

Samuel E. Munford was born in Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, on June 17, 1837, and was a son of John and Mary Nixon (Archer) Munford. The father was a native of South Carolina and the mother was born in Chester, South Carolina, in September, 1800. The latter's father, Thomas Archer, came to Indiana, in about 1806, because of his opposition to slavery. He brought several black men with him, among whom was Sampson, who had been the body guard of George Washington and whose remains now lie in the Archer cemetery.



*A. E. Mumford*



Mr. and Mrs. Archer were pioneers of the early day and upon coming to this locality they entered a tract of government land and here followed agricultural pursuits during the remainder of their lives. They were the parents of nine children, all of whom reached mature years, but all are now deceased excepting R. M. Samuel E. Munford was reared upon the paternal farmstead, and in his early youth attended the common schools, also receiving some special work in Latin. Having entertained an ambition to make a practice of medicine his life work, the subject entered the office of Doctor Blair, where he read medicine, and also was a student in the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, graduating in 1861. He was a close and studious observer of everything pertaining to his profession and became a writer of some note for medical journals. He engaged in practice at Princeton for a short time, in partnership with Dr. W. W. Blair, and was just getting fairly started in his professional work when the war of the Rebellion broke out, and to him belongs the distinction of being the first man in Gibson county to enlist for service. In June, 1861, he became a private in Company H, Seventeenth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was immediately detailed for hospital service. In August, 1861, he received an appointment as assistant surgeon of his regiment, and on February 5, 1862, he was promoted to surgeon of that command. At the formation of Wilder's brigade, one of the most noted commands in the Northern army, Doctor Munford was appointed acting brigade surgeon, which position he filled until the close of the war in 1865, when he received an honorable discharge, and returned to Princeton. He formed a partnership with Dr. W. W. Blair, which was maintained for five years, after which Doctor Munford became associated with Doctor West, a partnership which existed for three years, after which he engaged in the active practice alone for many years. A man of strictest integrity, conscientious in the performance of his duties, he successfully handled many difficult cases and gained a wide reputation as a professional man of ability and learning. In the special department of surgery, Doctor Munford had no superiors and few equals in this section of the state, being called to many distant points, both as an operator and in consultation. Many of his cases were reported to the medical journals of the country and he also contributed many valuable articles to the medical societies with which he was associated. In 1884 Doctor Munford was elected president of the Indiana State Medical Society, and received much praise for the able manner in which he handled its affairs during his administration. A close student of his profession and keeping in touch with the most advanced thought relative

thereto, Doctor Munford possessed a large library of the best professional literature and his office was well equipped with everything pertaining to his practice.

Though a busy man professionally, Doctor Munford always maintained a deep interest in local affairs, being public spirited in his attitude toward every movement which promised to benefit the community in any way. He was especially active in church work, being a member of the United Presbyterian society, in which he was an elder, and for ten years he served as a trustee of the city schools. Politically, he was a Republican, though the demands of his profession prevented his taking a very active part in political affairs.

In 1873 Doctor Munford was united in marriage to Mima S. Stonebarger, the daughter of John and Emily (Eppley) Stonebarger, the father a native of Pennsylvania and the mother of Virginia. John Stonebarger was a manufacturer in early life, though during his later years he gave his attention largely to the real estate business, which he was following at the time of his death, which occurred at the advanced age of eighty-nine years. To Doctor and Mrs. Munford were born five children, namely: Roderich S., who is news editor of the Youngstown (Ohio) *Telegram*. Agnes, who died on August 30, 1912, was the wife of Claud H. Crowder, a wholesale boot and shoe dealer of Indianapolis. Mrs. Crowder was a very accomplished musician, being an expert player on both piano and pipe organ. Samuel Archer, who is a physician, is medical adviser of Cornell University, being also extensively engaged in lecturing. Edith is the wife of John D. Moser, a member of the Taylor Manufacturing Company at Hamilton, Ontario. Dorothy is unmarried and remains at home with her mother.

In the death of Doctor Munford there passed from the professional circles of Princeton a man who had honored the community with which his life had been identified. There is no standard by which his beneficent influence can be measured, for the helpfulness which he extended was limited only by the extent of his knowledge and skill. Of intense earnestness and conscientiousness in his professional duties, no labor was too arduous and no self-sacrifice too great when he felt called to attend a patient, regardless of conditions or surroundings. His life was full of tenderness, sacrifice, solicitude, true in its constancy and loyal in its devotion to all with whom he was associated. He was everywhere regarded as a wide-awake, enterprising man of his time, fully alive to the dignities and the responsibilities of citizenship, and, to the extent of his ability, contributed to the general prosperity of



the community honored by his citizenship. Courteous, affable and easily approached, he commanded the undivided respect of all with whom he came in contact, and his friends were bounded only by the limits of his acquaintance, being universally esteemed in all the relations of life.

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### JOHN L. MORRIS, M. D.

Professional success results from merit. Frequently in commercial life one may come into possession of a lucrative business through inheritance or gift, but in what are known as the learned professions advancement is gained only through painstaking and long continued effort. Prestige in the healing art is the outcome of strong mentality, close application, thorough mastery of its great underlying principles and the ability to apply theory to practice in the treatment of diseases. Good intellectual training, thorough professional knowledge and the possession and utilization of the qualities and attributes essential to success, have made the subject of this review eminent in his chosen calling, and he is recognized as one of the leading physicians in Gibson county.

John L. Morris, M. D., was born February 22, 1869, in Barton township, Gibson county, Indiana, on the old Barton homestead, the son of John T. and Mary E. (Miller) Morris. The father was also born on this same farm, while the mother is a native of Warrick county, Indiana. John T. Morris was a son of John T. and Mary (Marshall) Morris, natives of England, in which country they lived until reaching maturity, when they came to America in 1832. They were married in Evansville, Indiana, in 1832, later removing to Vanderburg county, and in 1838 locating in Barton township, Gibson county. Here they cleared a place in the heavy growth of timber and built a cabin. John T. Morris, Sr., was fortunately possessed of a knowledge of surveying and was enabled to greatly help his neighbors in locating their land. He was a man of splendid intellectual attainments, well read and scholarly, and was a leader in his community. He and his wife were members of the Episcopal church. To them were born six children, namely: John T., the subject's father; Richard, Lewis, Phillip and Sidney, deceased; Robert is living on part of the old home place. The subject's father, John T. Morris, received a common school education, and, his father passing away when he was but twelve years of age, he tenderly cared for

his mother until her death in 1892. On August 7, 1862, Mr. Morris enlisted in Company F, Fourth Indiana Cavalry, and was mustered out on June 23, 1865. He served in the Army of the Cumberland, with Sherman on the "March to the Sea," was in Wilson's raid and took part in the capture of Jefferson Davis. He has followed farming for thirty-five years, part of this time being also interested in a saw-mill. In politics he is deeply interested in the success of the Republican party, while his religious affiliations are with the Methodist Episcopal church. In January, 1867, John T. Morris was united in marriage with Mary E. Miller, daughter of David Miller, of Virginia, who was an early settler in Pike county, Indiana, and who later removed to Missouri. To this union were born nine children, as follows: George Thomas, who is a farmer in Warrick county, being also interested in engineering and the dairy business, married Mary E. Heldt; John L.; Robert Benjamin is a farmer in Warrick county and among other investments he is connected with the telephone interests. He was first married to a Miss De Priest and his second wife was a Miss Smith; Charles died at the age of four years; Martha Bell died at the age of two and one-half years; James died at the age of four years; W. F. is a physician and is the subject of a sketch elsewhere in this work; Edison, a farmer of Elberfield, Indiana, married Augusta Ebrecht; Mary Eva married William C. May, a farmer living at Mackey, Indiana.

After completing a course in the common schools, the subject of this review attended the Snake Run Academy. Resolving to make the study and practice of medicine his life work, he put in two years preparatory work under Dr. John Ballard, of Haubstadt, Indiana, now deceased, and then he entered the Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia, from which he graduated May 15, 1896. He was then engaged in practice with Dr. John Ballard at Haubstadt, Gibson county, until 1899, when he located at King's Station, where he built his home and office and resided until December 23, 1913, when he moved to Princeton and is now in active practice. Doctor Morris' practice extends over an extensive territory, he not only doing a large business in Princeton, but over the entire county.

The subject was married on April 28, 1897, to Arlena Frances Epperson, of Gibson county, daughter of Uriah C. and Mary (Brumfield) Epperson, the father, a farmer, living four miles north of Haubstadt. To this union have been born two children: Uriah C., who was born December 23, 1901, and Nola V., who died at the age of four and one-half years.

Doctor Morris is a member of the county and state medical associations,

also being affiliated with the national body, the American Medical Association. Politically, he is a staunch Republican, having been elected coroner for the county from 1896 to 1910. Religiously, he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at King's Station. His fraternal relations are with the Knights of Pythias lodge at Princeton, and is also a member of the Sons of Veterans, about to be organized here

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### JAMES ALBERT TICHENOR.

Though more than a decade of years has elapsed since the honored subject of these memoirs was transferred from the life militant to the life triumphant, his personality is still fresh in the memory of his many friends who remain in Gibson county, where for many years he was regarded as one of the leading men. Because of his many excellent personal qualities and the splendid and definite influence which his life shed over the entire locality in which he lived so long and which he labored so earnestly to upbuild in any way within his power, it is particularly fitting that specific mention should be made of him in a work containing mention of the representative citizens of the community in a past generation. A man of high moral character, unimpeachable integrity, persistent industry and excellent business judgment, he stood "four square to every wind that blew" and throughout the locality where he lived he occupied an enviable position among his fellow men, by whom he was universally esteemed.

James Albert Tichenor was born September 22, 1851, on the corner of West and Emerson streets, Princeton, Indiana, the son of William N. and Elizabeth (Johnson) Tichenor, he of Nelson county, Kentucky (born December 25, 1826), and she born October 12, 1828, on "River DeShee." Elsewhere in this volume will be found a sketch of the life of William N. Tichenor, father of the immediate subject of this sketch, a man of great influence and ability.

James Albert Tichenor was educated in schools of Princeton, remaining at home with his parents until his marriage, in 1881, to Eliza J. Mauck, who was born August 7, 1850, in Owensville, Indiana, a daughter of Abraham and Nancy (Jones) Mauck. Abraham Mauck was a native of Harrison county, Indiana, and Nancy Jones was a daughter of Col. Charles Jones, whose wife was Eleanore Warrick. The Warricks were natives of Kentucky and Capt.

Jacob Warrick, Eleanore's father, was killed at the battle of Tippecanoe. Abraham Mauck's education was limited to that obtainable in the country schools of his time. Later in life he was engaged in the pork packing industry and boating and was a merchant at Mt. Carmel, Illinois, in association with his brothers; they were also engaged in the flour-mill business. He died at the age of eighty years. Nancy Jones Mauck, his wife, died when young, aged thirty-three years. She was the mother of two children now living, namely: Eliza J., wife of the subject of this sketch, and Charles, a farmer located at Twin Falls, Idaho.

Abraham Mauck married a second time, his second wife being Mrs. Mary Miln Walling, widow of Dr. Willoughby Walling, and she is still living in Princeton. To their union were born three children, namely: William M., deceased; Frank, a farmer residing in Princeton, and Arthur, a farmer who resides in Patoka township, Gibson county.

From the time of his marriage in 1881 until his death, May 23, 1900, James Albert Tichenor was engaged in agricultural pursuits in Patoka township. He was one of the largest and most successful farmers in Gibson county and, in addition to general farming, devoted much time and attention to raising high grade live stock. He was a public-spirited man and gave much time and means to promoting any cause that had as its object ultimate benefit to his community. He took a great deal of interest in the Gibson County Fair Association, and did much to make it a high class exhibit. He was influential in political circles and from 1894 to 1898 was chairman of the Republican central committee. His religious affiliation was with the Presbyterian church, to which he gave liberally of his means. To Mr. Tichenor and wife were born two daughters, Mabel E. and Maude. Both of these daughters are well educated. After attending the grades and high school in Princeton, Mabel E. was graduated at Indiana University at Bloomington, later attending Vassar College for Women, from which she was graduated in 1910. She has been an instructor in mathematics in the Princeton high schools for the past six years. She toured Europe in 1912. Maude, the second daughter, is the wife of James Paul Weatherspoon, to whom she was united in marriage February 1, 1911. She is also a graduate of the Princeton high school and attended Indiana University and takes an active interest in many clubs and various societies, in addition to her home duties. Mr. Weatherspoon is engaged in farming.

"An honest man is the noblest work of God," and no higher praise can be given a man than the simple statement that he measured up to the full stature

of manhood. Such a life was that of James Albert Tichenor, well rounded, full and complete in every relation of life, his memory and influence a vital, living thing in the hearts and minds of those with whom he came in contact.

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### CHARLES B. SWINNEY.

The youngest newspaper man in Gibson county, Indiana, and one of the youngest in the state is Charles B. Swinney, the editor of the *Fort Branch Times*, which he established in October, 1911. Mr. Swinney was born August 12, 1888, in Lincoln City, Indiana, the son of Crutcher C. and Jennie (Wright) Swinney, both natives of Indiana. His father died in October, 1893, and his mother is still living.

Charles B. Swinney was educated in the public schools of Fort Branch, and when a chance was offered to learn the newspaper business he readily accepted the opportunity. While still a boy he started in the printing office of C. B. Speer, editor of the *Herald*, at Fort Branch, Indiana. He then worked for a time in the *Courier-Journal* office at Louisville, Kentucky, and in 1911, at the age of twenty-three, established the *Fort Branch Times*, and has continued as editor and manager of this weekly paper since that time. He also has a large job printing business and is rapidly coming to the front as an enterprising newspaper man.

Mr. Swinney was married on November 30, 1912, at Fort Branch, Indiana, to Alice E. Polk, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William C. Polk, and to this union there has been born one son, Jack William, who was born November 21, 1912. Mr. Swinney is a Democrat in politics and in his paper he espouses the principles of that party in an able and fearless manner. The Polk family, of which Mrs. Swinney is a member, is one of the most prominent families, not only of this county, but of southern Indiana during the **early history of the state**. Mr. Swinney's grandfather, Merit Swinney, was a leading physician of Spencer county, Indiana, for many years, although later in life he went to Evansville, where he was engaged in the grocery business.

Mr. Swinney is at the threshold of a long and useful career as a newspaper man and, with the energy and ability which he has shown thus far in the conduct of his paper, he bids fair to become a man of influence in his county. A good newspaper is the means of doing an incalculable amount of

good, and the standard which has been set by Mr. Swinney shows that he is a public-spirited citizen, who wants to put his newspaper on the right side of all public questions.

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### JOHN J. HOLLIS.

Among the strong and influential citizens of Gibson county the record of whose lives has become an essential part of the history of this section, the man whose name appears above occupies a prominent place and for years he has exerted a beneficial influence in the locality where he resides. His chief characteristics are keenness of perception, a tireless energy, honesty of purpose and motive, and every-day common sense, which have enabled him not only to advance his own interests, but also largely contribute to the moral and material advancement of the community.

John J. Hollis, than whom no farmer in Patoka township, Gibson county, Indiana, enjoys a higher degree of popular confidence and regard, was born about three and one-half miles south of Princeton on the old Hollis homestead on April 10, 1838, and is the son of Othniel Hollis, who was born in 1807, in Raleigh, North Carolina. Othniel Hollis lived in North Carolina until he was seventeen years of age, when he came to Gibson county where he had an uncle, Basil Brown, engaged in the hotel business in Princeton. His wife was Micha Ann Steward, a native of Maryland, born in 1809. She lived to be sixty years of age and died on the farm near Princeton. She was one of the charter members of the Cumberland Baptist church at Princeton, and was a consistent member throughout her life. Othniel Hollis worked on farms in different parts of Gibson county for a while and later purchased eighty acres of wild land about two and one-half miles south of Princeton, which he cleared and put into good shape. He purchased a little later forty additional acres lying about one-half mile southeast of his original tract and on this he built a home, where the family lived for several years. In later years he bought a home on South Main street in Princeton, and after the death of his wife made his home with the subject of this sketch for a time. He died in 1882, at the age of seventy-four. For many years he was a faithful member of the Liberty congregation of the Regular Baptist church, east of Fort Branch, Indiana. Othniel Hollis and wife were the parents of nine children, namely: The first child was an infant which they lost; Fannie Elizabeth and Robert Alexander, both deceased; John J., the immediate sub-



*I J Hollis*





ject of this sketch; Ellen, widow of Joseph Ashmead, of Terre Haute, Indiana; Bartlett B.; an infant; a little daughter, Sarah, and Louisa, aged seventeen, all dead, and Corilla, living with her brother Bartlett B. in Patoka township.

John J. Hollis had very little opportunity for schooling when a youth, and worked quite hard with his father on the home place. He remained at home until the beginning of the Civil war, when, in October, 1861, he enlisted in Company B, Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served to January of 1865. He left on December 13, 1861, going to Louisville, Kentucky, and was in the battle of Chickamauga and, on account of weak eyes as a result of measles, he was relegated to cook for his mess. He was four times wounded. On September 19, 1863, he was shot through the right foot, was also shot through the left leg, a shot which struck him in the left hip passed out through the right hip and he was also hit in the spine by a spent ball. He was taken to the field hospital on the next day and for fifteen days was held a prisoner near Murfreesboro. During this time all he had to eat was cockle and wheat and after fifteen days he was sent back to the Union lines. He had to lay on his face on a blanket thrown over a pile of stone for a long time. Four months later he got home and was disabled for a long time.

On October 12, 1866, Mr. Hollis was united in marriage to Sarah Skelton, of Gibson county, who died in 1907. They were the parents of two children, Ella, who died aged two years, eight months and eight days, and Othniel, who died at the age of twenty months. Mr. and Mrs. Hollis have a foster son, William R. Knowles, whom they took when a boy six years old. He married Eva Gorley and they are farmers in Patoka township. After returning from the army, Mr. Hollis bought eighty acres of the old original Hollis homestead, which he still owns. He was also engaged in the furniture business in Princeton for several years. Also at one time he had lived in Posey county, Indiana, and for about four years they were in Owensville. In 1881 they left the old farm homestead and he bought his present home in Princeton, on the corner of South Main and Pinkney streets.

Mr. Hollis is a man of delightful personality who counts his friends by scores. His life principles have been such as to win for him the confidence and respect of all and he has ever sought to better the community in which he made his home. He is a charter member of Archer Post No. 28, Grand Army of the Republic. At the age of eighteen years he united with the

Enon General Baptist church and has ever been a faithful and consistent member of same. His has been a clean, honest, open life, helpful to all and an excellent example to those with whom he comes in contact.

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### SAMUEL HUGH ARCHER.

There are individuals in nearly every community who, by reason of pronounced ability and force of character, rise above the heads of the masses and command the unbounded esteem of their fellow men. Characterized by perseverance and a directing spirit, two virtues that never fail, such men always make their presence felt and the vigor of their strong personality serves as a stimulus and incentive to the young and rising generation. To this energetic and enterprising class the subject of this review very properly belongs. Having never been seized with the roaming desires that have led many of Gibson county's young men to other fields of endeavor and other states, where they have sought their fortunes, Mr. Archer has devoted his life to industries at home and has succeeded remarkably well, as we shall see by a study of his life's history.

Samuel Hugh Archer was born October 14, 1833, in Patoka township, Gibson county, Indiana, the son of John and Catherine (McMullen) Archer, the father a native of South Carolina and the mother of Kentucky. The paternal grandfather of the subject was Thomas Archer, who married a Miss McCalley in South Carolina, and Thomas was a son of Robert Archer. In 1806 or 1807 Samuel Hugh Archer's father, grandfather and great-grandfather, John, Thomas and Robert, came from South Carolina through to Indiana in wagons, stopping on their way for a brief period in Tennessee. On arriving in the Hoosier state, after the long, tiresome and dangerous journey, they settled in White River township, Gibson county, for a time and later purchased the land known as Captain Hopkins' place, which at that time was a virgin forest of heavy timber.

Robert Archer, the great-grandfather of the subject, gave to the Presbyterian church some land to make the Archer cemetery, this burial ground thus acquiring its name from the family and having been laid out over one hundred and ten years ago. Robert was a Revolutionary soldier and was a cripple. He died in his sixty-fifth year. His sister, a widow, Mrs. Boyd, was the first person interred in the Archer cemetery. To Robert Archer and wife were born six children, Rose, Nancy, Mary, Ebbie, Thomas and William.

Thomas Archer, as a young man, acquired one hundred and sixty acres of land in Patoka township, two miles northwest of Princeton, securing this tract from the government. He was a farmer and stock raiser and was a very successful man. In later life he sold his farm and bought six acres north of Princeton, but later returned to the old home place, where his death occurred. He was the father of the following children: (1) Robert lived all his life in Patoka township and was a farmer and stock raiser. (2) John lived in Gibson county and was a gunsmith and locksmith by trade. In 1850 he settled on land south of Princeton where the Southern railroad shops are now located. The tract was covered with heavy timber, much of which had been blown down, the land comprising one hundred and sixty-eight acres. In the clearing of this place the subject of this sketch assisted. John, who was first a Whig and later a Republican, was a well known and highly respected man in his community, a member of the Reformed Presbyterian church, while his wife was a charter member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He died in 1865 and his wife in 1872. (3) Samuel, at the age of sixteen, started clerking in the store of Robert Stockwell at Princeton and later was made a partner in the firm, eventually buying Mr. Stockwell out. Later moving to Evansville, Indiana, Samuel, in partnership with John Mackey, engaged in the wholesale dry goods business, also engaging in banking. He was married to May Snethen and died in his eightieth year. (4) David lived in Princeton, where he was a clothing merchant for many years, also being interested in farming operations. He married Martha McCalley. (5) Beasey educated himself in the State University, and died at the age of twenty-six. (6) Thomas lived in Evansville, Indiana. He was an engineer of high ability, and ran the first engine on the Evansville & Terre Haute railroad out of Evansville sixty years ago. He was twice married. (8) Mary married John Munford, a farmer, and lived in Princeton. (9) Sarah died at the age of thirty years. Of the above named children, Robert married Louisa, the widow of Brown Woods, who was killed in the battle of Resaca on May 14, 1862. She lived in Princeton. To Robert and his wife was born a son, Robert A. On Robert's death she again married, becoming the wife of George Miller and they have two sons, Dr. C. A. Miller, of Princeton, and Archibald, who died in the Philippine Islands while in the employ of the government as a teacher.

John Archer, the subject's father, was the parent of the following children: (1) William, who was born in 1828 and lived in Gibson county all his life, was a member of the Eightieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry and was

killed in the battle of Resaca. He was the husband of Jane King, who now lives in Princeton, and they had one child, William, who is a farmer at Montrose, Colorado. (2) James Wilson lived at home until his death, at the age of twenty-three. (3) Samuel, the subject. (4) Theodore Beasey lived at home until he reached the age of seventeen, when he enlisted in the Thirty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry. While in his country's service he died from exposure, in 1863. He was buried in the Archer cemetery. (5) Sarah M., who is deceased, was the wife of Hugh Cairns. (6) Rachael Ann died young. (7) Margaretta also died young.

The children of Samuel Archer and wife were: Anne, living near Portland, Oregon; Lucy, also living near Portland, Oregon; Charles Archer, D. D. S., is located in Portland, where he deals in dental supplies. He is married and has a son, Samuel. To David Archer and wife were born two children, Beasey and Elizabeth, of Princeton.

Thomas Archer, by his first marriage, was the father of three children: Fulton is deceased; Elzine is one of the oldest engineers on the Evansville & Terre Haute railroad, having been in its service for the last thirty years. He is married; Mary is unmarried and lives in California.

John and Mary (Munford) Archer were the parents of the following children: Riley, who was married, died at the age of twenty-eight; Harvey, deceased, was a graduate of the State University and taught school. He was married to a Miss Emery, and she also is now deceased; William, deceased, was a member of the Fifty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry during the Civil war and was wounded at Murfreesboro. After the war he lived in Gibson county and married a Miss McRoberts. He left two children on his death, John, who lives in Princeton, and Anne, also living in Princeton, and the widow of a Mr. Sabins.

Samuel Hugh Archer, the subject of this review, received his early education in the primitive schools of pioneer times. He was compelled to go three or four miles to the little log school house, following blazed trails through the forest, the children riding through the dense woods three on a horse. The subject lived at home until he reached the age of twenty-two, when he and a brother, William, borrowed money and went to the river bottoms to engage in the raising of corn. They found a ready market at thirty cents a bushel and were soon enabled to pay off their debt. Remaining at this business for four years, Mr. Archer next went to the state of Kentucky and sold fanning mills for two years, after which he returned to the old home place and he and his brother William farmed it until the brother enlisted in

the Union army. Samuel remained at the home to take care of the family and the farm, and after the parents died he was appointed administrator and settled the estate. After their deaths he lived in Princeton for two years and then purchased one hundred and ten acres of land known as the Potter place. In the spring of 1871 he was united in marriage to Elizabeth O. Robb, of Gibson county, and this union has been blessed with the following children: Luella married William Wyman, who is traffic manager for a railroad company in Chicago; Mary is at home; Franklin married Elizabeth Gray and is farming on the home place; Sarah is at home; two died in infancy. In the years 1879 and 1880 Mr. Archer built his present splendid home and his place, which now comprises two hundred and six acres, is one of the finest in Patoka township.

A progressive farmer and stock breeder, the subject has devoted much attention to the raising of fine stock, specializing in Short Horn and Jersey cattle and Chester White, Berkshire, Poland China and Duroc Jersey Red hogs, also raising general purpose horses and mules.

In 1858 the Gibson County Fair Association was organized and Mr. Archer was one of the incorporators, the association being reorganized in 1864. Mr. Archer served as assistant superintendent, later as superintendent and eventually as general superintendent for eight years and as a director for fifteen years. He has always taken a deep interest in movements for the betterment of Gibson county in any line. A faithful member of the United Presbyterian church in Princeton, he has taken a great interest in its welfare.

Mr. Archer has taken an especial interest in the upkeep of Archer cemetery, having added many improvements to it, among these being a fine iron fence and a gravel road leading to the burial place. The care of the grounds of this beautiful resting place of the dead has been a pleasant task for him and the beauty of these are the result of his solicitude.

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#### RICHARD B. HALLOCK.

It was remarked by a celebrated moralist and biographer that "there has scarcely passed a life of which a judicious and faithful narrative would not have been useful," and especially is this true when the life under review is one that has closed its earthly career and permits the biographer to view the life as a whole and get a prospectus scarcely possible in the life of a living

man. Richard B. Hallock, the honored subject of this memoir, was one of the worthy citizens of Princeton in an early day and by his business ability, honor and integrity, coupled with a winning personality, he did much to advance the social and business welfare of this community. It was he who opened the first drug store in Princeton, on the south side of the square, and he was also the genial host of the hostelry known as the Hallock House, at whose hospitable board many of the famous visitors to Princeton sat down in early days.

Richard B. Hallock was born March 15, 1815, and died September 1, 1895. His birth place was Tuckerton, Burlington county, New Jersey, and he was a son of the Rev. John Hallock and Lydia, his second wife. They were both natives of Tuckerton, where the Rev. Mr. Hallock was a preacher of the Quaker faith. After the death of his wife, Mr. Hallock, together with three maiden sisters and his three sons, came west and located in Illinois, south of Friendsville and near Mt. Carmel. Here they had considerable land, which they farmed, and they also had a general store and in addition manufactured castor oil. One of the sons moved to Evansville, Indiana, where he died. The father also later lived in Evansville, and it was at that point his death occurred. Aaron, another son, lived at Mt. Carmel, Illinois. The Rev. John Hallock was a fine man, quite prominent and well known in his day.

The third son who came with the father was Richard B., the subject of this sketch. He received his early education in the public schools. He first acquired the trade of a cabinet-maker and later became a druggist. He was in the drug business in New York state and also in Philadelphia, and he and his brothers, Allen C. and James, were in the drug business in New York City before the father and sons came to Illinois, and were associated with the rest of the family in the manufacture of castor oil. In addition to their other business interests, they operated flat boats on the river, going as far as New Orleans, where they disposed of the produce that formed their cargo. The father and his three sons were men of importance in their community and were widely known. After coming to Princeton, Richard B. Hallock operated his drug store in various locations until his retirement in 1888.

In April, 1844, Mr. Hallock was united in marriage to Malinda Parmenter, of Albion, Illinois. She was the daughter of Isaac and Sarah (Ulter) Parmenter, originally of Mt. Carmel. The father was a farmer and was one of the leading men in the Indian war, ranking as colonel. His death

was due to a bullet wound in the forehead received during one of the numerous skirmishes. It was after his marriage that Mr. Hallock came to Princeton and here they resided during many years, endearing themselves to all. Mrs. Hallock was an exceptionally fine woman, and was the pioneer nurse of Gibson county. For a while she was second matron of the Orphans' Home at Princeton, where her great heart found an outlet for its wonderful store of motherly love. Soon after their arrival in Princeton, Mr. and Mrs. Hallock identified themselves with the Cumberland Presbyterian church and during the remainder of their lives gave much of their time and means to further its influence on the community. Into the ideal home these two worthy ones made, ten children were born, three of whom, Lydia, Amy and Eliza, died in early infancy; Harry died at the age of eleven, John at the age of thirty-three, and Charles at the age of forty-five. Sarah lives in Pasadena, California, the widow of the Rev. J. E. Jenkins, who filled the pulpit of the Cumberland Presbyterian church in Princeton for thirty-three years. To their union were born four children, Mary, Minnie, Catherine and Annie. Richard, one of the sons of this excellent family, was a teacher in the schools of Gibson county for fourteen years and is now in the directory business at Peoria, Illinois. He remains unmarried. The two remaining children, Malinda and William E., have always remained in the old home. Both were educated in the schools of Princeton and in the year 1886 William E. began the manufacture of brooms and is still engaged in that business at No. 527 South Gibson street. Also for the past twenty-five years he has propagated sweet potato sets for the spring plantings and this business has assumed considerable proportions, so that now he supplies almost the whole of Gibson county. William E.'s political sympathies are with the Republican party, as were those of his honored father, and he and his sister Malinda are members of the First Presbyterian church. The family is well and widely known throughout the country, having contributed in no small way to its advancement along various lines.

The influence of such a life as that of Richard B. Hallock cannot be estimated by any earthly standard. His friends and associates know him in his outward life as a man of sterling worth, one whose every wish it was to advance the cause of humanity, and needless to say there were many helpful and beautiful deeds recorded to his credit of which the world knew nothing. His was a life that measured up to the full stature of manhood, and in saying that, there is nothing more that can be added.



## CAPT. CHARLES BROWNLEE.

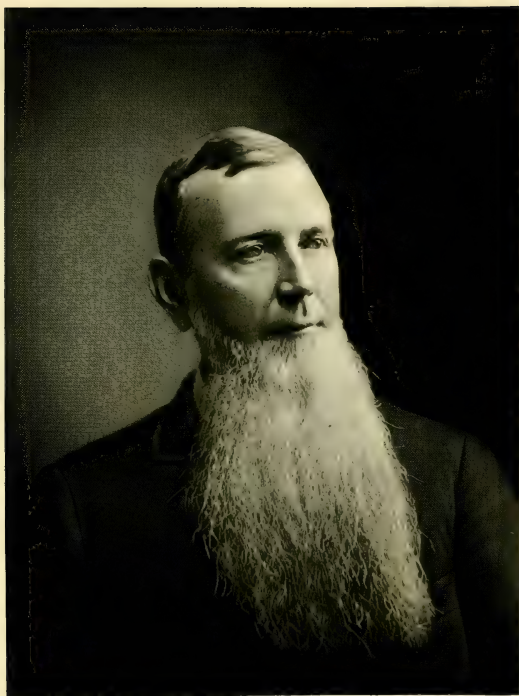
Few men in the city of Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, are so widely and favorably known as the worthy gentleman whose name initiates this paragraph. He is one of those strong and influential citizens whose lives become an essential part of the history of a community, and for years his name has been synonymous with all that constitutes an honorable and upright manhood. Tireless energy, keen perception and honesty of purpose, combined with every-day common sense, are among his chief characteristics, and while advancing his own individual success he has largely promoted the moral and material welfare of his community.

Captain Charles Brownlee was born in the house in Princeton where he yet resides, on January 17, 1839, the son of John and Jane (Harrington) Brownlee. The father was born in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, December 18, 1794, and the mother in North Carolina January 15, 1804. To the parents of the subject were born eleven children, namely: George, deceased, was born August 12, 1828; William, born February 18, 1830; James, born August 17, 1834; Hugh, born December 12, 1836; Charles; Catherine, born March 1, 1841; Thomas, born August 23, 1843; John, born August 23, 1846; Alex, born January 23, 1849; one child died in infancy.

The subject's father was a merchant, as was also his father before him, they having started in business together in 1811, and the business has been in the family for over a century, having been handed down through four generations. Grandfather Harrington was the first judge in Gibson county.

The subject of this review enlisted in the Eightieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry on August 11, 1862, under Captain Simmonson, and was elected second lieutenant by the members of his company, in which position he served for one month, when he was promoted to the captaincy, holding that office until the practical end of the war, resigning on account of ill health in 1864. Four of the subject's brothers were in the Union army and all served honorably through that conflict and returned to their homes. The command in which Captain Brownlee was an officer was engaged in a number of the biggest battles of that sanguinary conflict, also taking part in many lesser engagements. They took part in the battle of Perryville, were in the fighting in eastern Tennessee and were with General Burnside at Kingston and Morristown, acquitting themselves with great credit to their state and nation. Captain Brownlee, in recalling the terribly cold winter through which they passed in eastern Tennessee, remarks that in order to keep warm "they burned





Charles Brownlee



up all the rails in that part of the state." On returning home from the service of his country the subject resumed the mercantile business, in which he was engaged the rest of his life up to the time of his retirement in February, 1911.

The subject's father was a private in J. W. Crockett's Kentucky volunteer regiment, while his grandfather Harrington and two sons fought in the battle of Tippecanoe, one of the sons, James, being killed in that battle.

Captain Brownlee has been thrice married. In 1874 he was united in matrimony to Sallie Hall, and to this union were born two children, Paul, who is conducting a store, and Therese, who married Charles Smith, of Dyersburg, Tennessee. In 1882 the subject's second marriage occurred, this time to Mariah Hall, a sister of his first wife. One child blessed this union, Cornelia, who is now an artist in the city of Chicago. Captain Brownlee married Charlotte Lockhart, his present wife, in 1889, and to them has been born a son, Allan Lockhart, who is attending Purdue University at Lafayette, Indiana.

The Brownlee family has lived in the present home since 1834, it being one of the oldest and best constructed houses in the county. It contains a good old-fashioned fireplace, the rooms are large, and it is indeed a fine old home, situated on a hill and commanding a splendid view.

Having cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln, Captain Brownlee has ever since allied himself with the Republican party. A member of the city council, he has given the best thought to matters of interest to his home city. His mother was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and was one of the organizers of the first church of that denomination in Princeton. Captain Brownlee is an honored member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

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#### ROBERT M. MORTON.

The biographies of enterprising men, especially of good men, are instructive as guides and incentives to others. The examples they furnish of patient purpose and steadfast integrity strongly illustrate what is in the power of each to accomplish. Some men belong to no exclusive class in life, apparently insurmountable obstacles have in many instances awakened their dormant faculties and served as a stimulus to carry them to ultimate success, if not renown. The instances of success in the face of adverse fate would almost seem to justify the conclusion that self-reliance, with a half chance,

can accomplish any object. The life of Robert M. Morton, well known throughout Gibson county, is an example in point, for by his individual efforts and close adherence to his every duty he has overcome the obstacles encountered on the highway of life and is now very comfortably fixed regarding this world's goods and has at the same time won a reputation for right living among his fellow men.

Robert M. Morton is a native of Gibson county, Indiana, born November 23, 1845, on a farm near Oakland City. He is the son of Alexander and Susan J. (McConnell) Morton. Alexander Morton was born in Chester district, South Carolina, and his wife Susan was a native of Ohio. The father of Alexander Morton was Thomas, a native of South Carolina, who married Margaret Bell of that state. Early in their married life, they, in company with several other families, went westward and settled near Knoxville, Tennessee. They only made a crop or two there and, being dissatisfied with the location, journeyed on until they reached Gibson county, Indiana. The Morton family obtained ground near Summerville. It was all in virgin forest, but, undaunted, they set about the laborious task of reclaiming the broad acres from the grip of the wilderness. A clearing was soon made in which the pioneer cabin was erected, and there the balance of their lives was passed. Thomas was killed in a runaway accident and the wife remained on the homestead until her death. Thomas Morton and wife were the parents of eight children, namely: Alexander, father of the immediate subject of this sketch; Thomas, John, Elizabeth, Nancy, Mary, Robert and Donald C.

Alexander Morton remained at his father's home until his marriage to Susan J. McConnell, at which time he obtained a tract of wild land adjoining the farm of his father, and here he endured the hardships of the pioneers while they were clearing their ground and putting in the first crops. He died comparatively young, at the age of forty-five years, and the wife continued to reside on the farm until she had raised the family, when she moved to Princeton, where she died. They were the parents of six children: Robert M., the subject of this sketch, was the oldest; Patrick Henry, a farmer residing in Livermore, Kentucky; David, deceased; Margaret, residing in Princeton, is the widow of Reuben Seibert; Mary, wife of John Jones, a farmer in Washington township, this county, and the youngest is Nancy, also residing in Washington township, and the widow of James Lowe. Alexander Morton and wife were members of the Covenanter church and lived fully consistent with the tenets of their faith.

Robert M. Morton attended the public schools of Gibson county in his

boyhood and on August 16, 1861, at the age of sixteen years, he enlisted in Company F, Thirty-third Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served until June 1, 1864. He enlisted at Princeton and was first sent to Indianapolis where the regiment was organized and was then sent into Tennessee and joined the Army of the Cumberland. He remained with that command until the close of the war. After the expiration of his first enlistment, he promptly re-enlisted in the same company and regiment until he was mustered out July 21, 1865. On July 20, 1864, at Peach Tree Creek, Georgia, he was shot through the right hip and was confined to the hospital for eleven months. He was taken a prisoner south of Franklin, Tennessee, on April 9, 1863, and was within the confines of Libby prison for thirty days, at which time his exchange was effected. After the close of the war, he returned to his home in Gibson county, where he engaged in agricultural work and also attended school. He fitted himself for a school teacher and followed this vocation for five winters.

On October 21, 1869, Mr. Morton was united in marriage to Nancy E. Murphy, of Gibson county, daughter of William L. and Margaret (McConnell) Murphy. After his marriage, he was engaged in farming in different parts of Gibson county, and gave up this line of work in 1878, when he settled in Princeton, where he has since resided. He has engaged in various lines of industry, among them being carpentry, general contracting, saw-mill and lumber business and also operated a threshing machine. In 1891 Mr. Morton built his present commodious home at No. 1235 South Main street, Princeton, where a hearty welcome always awaits his many friends.

Mr. Morton is a member of Archer Post No. 28, Grand Army of the Republic, at Princeton, and is also a consistent member of the Presbyterian church, to which he gives liberal support. Mr. and Mrs. Morton are the parents of three children, the oldest of whom is Oliver P., who is engaged in the restaurant business in Princeton. His wife was Maud Ewing and they are the parents of three children, Jennie, Rosa Belle and Emmaline. Another son, LeRoy, is connected with the police department of the city of Evansville, Indiana. He married Mary Hamilton and to their union one son has been born, Cecil R. The daughter of the family, Cordelia, is the wife of R. E. Herring of Moberly, Missouri, and they are the parents of two children, Robert Earl and Lawrence.

Some one has said that the story of any life is well worth the reading and surely this is particularly true of the life of a good man. Highly interesting and edifying it would doubtless be to know of the hidden battles waged from

time to time, but all the world can see is the life as a whole. Robert M. Morton is a man who stands high in the estimation of his associates, is well known and highly respected by a wide circle of friends and acquaintances, and this is a fitting tribute to his sterling character.

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### JOHN RILEY ERVIN.

Indefatigable industry, sound business judgment and wise management have been the elements which have contributed to the success achieved by John R. Ervin, for many years an enterprising and progressive farmer of Patoka township, Gibson county, Indiana, but who has now retired and resides in Princeton. His farming lands have always been well improved and highly productive, being numbered among the best farms of the township, and, because of his high character and unquestioned integrity, he enjoys to a marked degree the sincere respect of the community. In addition to a general line of farming, Mr. Ervin has always paid particular attention to his live stock and has taken much interest in his good breeds of horses, mules, cattle, sheep, Poland China hogs, etc.

John Riley Ervin, one of the older citizens of Gibson county, who has always enjoyed the high regard of all, was born March 13, 1834, one mile southwest of Princeton, a son of Robert and Martha (Stormont) Ervin, the latter being an aunt of Col. Gil R. Stormont. Robert Ervin was a native of Ireland and was brought to this country by his parents in 1804, when a little child of but three years. He is a son of Charles and Jane Ervin, and upon reaching America they located in Chester district, South Carolina, where they lived until 1831. Charles died in South Carolina, and in the year above mentioned the mother, with her four children, Ellen, Isabelle, Robert and Nancy, came to Gibson county. Robert, father of the immediate subject of this sketch, had married Miss Stormont in South Carolina before coming to Indiana. After arriving in Gibson county he obtained one hundred and sixty acres of wild land in Patoka township, heavily timbered with almost everything native to this section, and proceeded to make a home. He later purchased one hundred and sixty additional acres. The first house they had was a small cabin in the clearing and was made of poles. In this they lived until a frame house was completed in 1832. He had been a merchant in South Carolina, but always followed the vocation of farming after coming to Indi-

ana. His death occurred in 1847 and that of his wife in 1861. Originally he was a Whig in politics, and when the Republican party came into existence his sympathies went that way. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ervin were consistent members of the Presbyterian church and in that faith they reared their family of six children, namely: Margaret, deceased wife of John E. Little, who lived south of Princeton; James Madden, deceased, who was a prosperous farmer and married Margaret Mumford; John R., the immediate subject of this sketch; Jane Catherine, deceased wife of Calvin Woods, of Patoka township; Robert Harshaw, who was in Company A, Eighteenth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, took sick and died at Chattanooga, Tennessee; Nancy Ellen, wife of George W. Shophell, of Princeton, and Martha Amanda, deceased.

John Riley Ervin had but a limited schooling in his youth, owing to the limited circumstances of his parents and the meager opportunities at best, and as a boy he worked hard, being kept at home to help clear the farm. He remained at home with his mother to the age of twenty-six years and on January 20, 1859, was united in marriage to Sarah A. Finney, born near Princeton on what is known as the Hester farm. She is a daughter of John K. and Lorena (Morgan) Finney, she a native of Indiana and he of Kentucky. The parents of John K. Finney were James and Jane (Makemson) Finney, natives of Virginia. They had gone into Kentucky at an early day and on into Gibson county, Indiana, in 1814, locating just south of Princeton, where they passed the remainder of their lives. John K. Finney lived on his father's old place until he retired in 1884, when he moved to Princeton and died at the age of seventy-two. His wife lived to be seventy-three years of age. They are the parents of several children, namely: Nancy J., deceased wife of Milton Mumford, who is still living in Princeton; James Henry, who is a carpenter in Los Angeles, California; Minerva, the wife of George Shull, of Fort Branch, Indiana; Charles, deceased; John S., living in Bellville, Illinois; Martha E., wife of Robert McClerkin, of Los Angeles, California; Isabelle, who died at the age of nineteen, and Robert, who resides in Nashville, Tennessee. Mrs. John R. Ervin was the second child of her parents in the order of birth.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Ervin made their home on a part of the father's old place, making all of the improvements on it. Here a splendid barn, forty-four by ninety feet, burned on April 31, 1905, and was rebuilt the same year. In September, 1893, Mr. Ervin retired from the active operation of his farm and located at No. 214 East Pinkney street, Princeton,

where they have since resided. Mr. and Mrs. Ervin are well known throughout the county and are highly esteemed by all. Their home bears an air of hospitality enjoyed by many. Both are members of the United Presbyterian church and Mr. Ervin is a Republican. While he has always taken an active interest in politics, he has never aspired to office. He is a man well preserved for his age and is blessed with a remarkable memory. Mary Alice, oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ervin, is the wife of Henry Lewis Binkley, of Princeton, and to them has been born one daughter, Hazel. Robert, a son, farms Mr. Ervin's land, and he and his wife (formerly Anna Spore) are the parents of four children, Glenn, Gladys, Edith and Ruth. The third child is Charles Elmer, a successful dentist, located at Sixth and Main streets, Terre Haute, Indiana, for the past twenty years. He married Agnes McMinn and to their union have been born two children, Arthur and Mildred. All of Mr. Ervin's children have received excellent educations. Throughout his life Mr. Ervin has aimed for the best in whatever he has undertaken and thus he has been able to accomplish much and well deserves his peaceful old age, happy in the knowledge of past accomplishments, his home a center for his family of younger generations. Such lives and homes are the "salt of the earth" and their benign influence is carried far and wide.

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#### NATHANIEL HITCH.

The biographies of enterprising men, especially of good men, are instructive as guides and incentives to others. The examples they furnish of patient purpose and steadfast integrity strongly illustrate what is in the power of each to accomplish. Some men belong to no exclusive class in life; apparently insurmountable obstacles have in many instances awakened their dormant faculties and served as a stimulus to carry them to ultimate renown. The instances of success in the face of adverse fate would seem almost to justify the conclusion that self-reliance, with a half chance, can accomplish any reasonable object. The gentleman whose life history is herewith outlined is a man who has lived to good purpose and achieved a splendid success. By a straightforward and commendable course he has made his way to a respectable position in the world, winning the hearty admiration of the people of his community and earning the reputation of being an enterprising, progressive man of affairs which the public has not been slow to recognize and appreciate.



Nathaniel Hitch was born one mile north of Patoka, Gibson county, Indiana, October 29, 1842, the son of Edward W. and Mary (McMullen) Hitch, he a native of Delaware and she of Kentucky. The Hitch family was of English stock, and Edward W. was a son of Sovern Hitch, of England, who came early to America and located in Bridgeville, near Wilmington, Delaware, where he was the owner and proprietor of the "Bull's Eye," a famous tavern, which he conducted until his death. To him were born the following children: Henry lived in Bridgeville, Delaware; Edward W., the subject's father; Zachariah was an early settler and farmer near Patoka, Gibson county; Mary lived near Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Edward W. Hitch, the subject's father, secured a very meager education in the crude schools of his boyhood days, being an orphan, and at the age of twenty he struck out toward the west to make his own way. Coming first to Cincinnati, he purchased a boat and went down the Ohio and Mississippi rivers to Natchez, Mississippi, where he secured a job cutting cord wood. Later, obtaining a flat boat, the subject's father traveled far up and down the river selling wood, and in time acquired another boat, making trips as far down the Mississippi as New Orleans. After engaging in this business for some time he sold out, and as he was returning north on a steamboat he was taken down with yellow fever, but managed to survive that terrible scourge. On his recovery he came to Gibson county and obtained a piece of wild land one mile north of Patoka, where he set about making a home, clearing the land, erecting a cabin and planting crops. Here he lived the remainder of his life, devoting his time to agriculture and stock raising, becoming a man of prominence in his community. He died in his eighty-fourth year, while his wife passed away at the age of eighty-six. In early life he was an old-line Whig, but later became a Democrat. He and his wife were members of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. To them were born the following children: Nathaniel; William Henry, a farmer at Princeton; Mary is the widow of William G. Cunningham and lives at Patoka; Vincent, a farmer and logger at Patoka; Millie lives at Patoka; Nicholas B. is a farmer at Wheatland, Indiana; Emma J. was the wife of John Trippert and both are deceased; Edward is a retired farmer living at Princeton.

The early education of Nathaniel Hitch was acquired in a primitive pay school. He lived at home until he reached his twentieth year, and then traveled in many parts of the South and West. He taught school in Missouri for a while and was engaged in different businesses. The subject was twice married, first to Louisa Collins, of Missouri, and to this union was born one child, William E., who is a druggist in Wheatland, Indiana, and who married

Florence Key. The subject's first wife died in Patoka. His second marriage was to Ellen (Robb) Steelman, of White River township, Gibson county, the daughter of David Robb, one of the prominent pioneers of this county. To this union were born seven children, namely: Luella married George G. Curtner, of Lafayette, Indiana; Chauncy, a graduate of Purdue University, is a druggist at Lafayette, Indiana; Forest C. is in the barber business at Chattanooga, Tennessee; Clarence lives in Lafayette, Indiana, and is a traveling salesman; Othniel is also a traveling salesman of Lafayette, Indiana; Purvis is a plumber at Evansville, Indiana; Paul, who is attending school, is living at home. He attended Culver Military Academy in 1911.

In 1866 Mr. Hitch returned to Gibson county for a brief period, and then traveled through the West for some time. Returning in 1879, he purchased land near Patoka and engaged in farming and stock raising. He dealt extensively in land in that vicinity and in White River township, and still owns land in the latter townhsip. In 1910 he removed to Princeton and located at his present home at No. 903 North Main street, where he is now residing in honorable retirement.

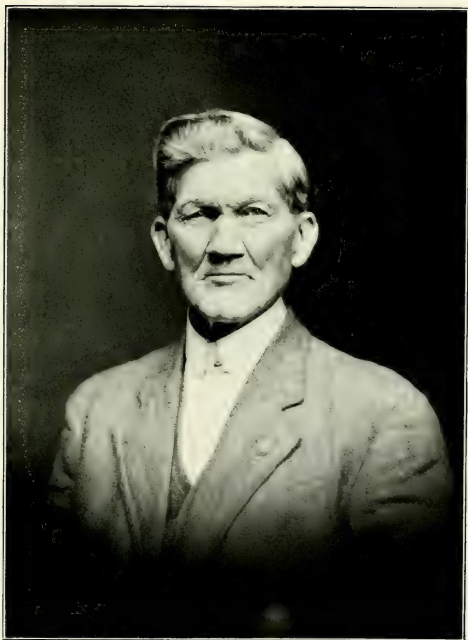
Mr. Hitch is a well-read and well-posted man and is highly respected in his community. Always taking an active interest in politics, he is allied with the Progressive party. In matters of religious belief, he has been a member of the Methodist church for many years.

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### ISAAC A. LOCKWOOD.

The biographies of the representative men of a county bring to light many hidden treasures of mind, character and courage, well calculated to arouse the pride of their family and of the community, and it is a source of regret that the people are not more familiar with the personal history of such men, in the ranks of whom may be found tillers of the soil, mechanics, teachers, as well as lawyers, physicians, bankers and members of other vocations and professions. The subject of this sketch is distinctively one of the leading citizens of Gibson county, and as such has made his influence felt among his fellow men and earned a name for enterprise, integrity and honor that entitles him to worthy notice in a work of the nature of this volume.

Isaac A. Lockwood was born June 19, 1842, near Fort Branch, Gibson county, Indiana, the son of Stephen and Phoebe Tucker, who were born, reared and married in New York City. The subject's parents, together with



ISAAC A. LOCKWOOD.



two families named Parrett and Evans, came west at an early date, and first located at the place where Evansville, Indiana, now stands. The latter part of their journey was made by means of flat boats on the river. At the time they arrived at their stopping place there was but one cabin standing on the site of the present city of seventy thousand population. Stephen Lockwood secured eighty acres of land in what is now the main business section of the city, where he put up a log cabin and established a home, later conducting a store. About this time the state was completed from Evansville to Vincennes, and the subject's father sold his land and store and removed to Gibson county, locating near Fort Branch, on Pigeon creek. Here he erected a home and a water-power saw-mill, and about 1834 entered a large tract of land, on which he cut the first timber used in Princeton. He died in 1847 and his wife passed away in 1875. He was a very active and successful business man and made a great deal of money in the buying and selling of horses, purchasing the animals in the north and taking them on flat boats to New Orleans, where there was always a ready market at good prices. It is related that on his last trip down the river he was the loser of a considerable sum through accepting depreciated currency for his horses. On his return he stopped at Nashville, Tennessee, for a night, and on seeking to settle his bill for lodging was informed by the hotel man that his money was almost worthless, its face value having dropped then to twenty-five cents on the dollar. Stephen Lockwood died of winter fever while yet in the prime of life. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. To them were born the following children: Phoebe was born in New York City and died at the age of sixteen; James T., who was also born in New York City, was a prominent and wealthy farmer in Gibson county; Susan, deceased, was born in Indiana and married Thomas Dickson; John, who was a farmer at Fort Branch, died in 1911; Martha, who died in 1909, was the wife of Nemaw Picou, who went into the Confederate army and never returned; Sarah, deceased, was the wife of Nehemiah Garrison; Isaac A.; Phoebe Ann, deceased, married Frank Sherman and they lived in Codatt, Wisconsin.

Isaac A. Lockwood received but little education in the subscription school, early in life being compelled to do a man's part in the work on the home place, helping his mother to keep the family together after the death of his father. On June 12, 1862, the subject enlisted in Company B, Fifty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, at Princeton, and, after being outfitted

and drilled at Indianapolis, the company joined its regiment at Bardstown, Kentucky, and was attached to the Army of the Cumberland, taking part in all the engagements in which that army corps was engaged. On September 19, 1863, Mr. Lockwood was wounded during the battle of Chickamauga, being shot through the lungs and ribs, and in his injured condition he was captured by the Confederates, being kept prisoner for fourteen days under the worst possible circumstances. The prisoners' beds were piles of stone covered with brush and they were fed on the ground wheat and cockle so well remembered by those who were unfortunate enough to have been "guests" of the South. Later Mr. Lockwood was exchanged and sent to the Union lines under a flag of truce. He was first taken to Chattanooga and housed in an old brick warehouse, and no beds or bedding being provided, the subject, yet suffering terribly from his wound, was compelled to lie on the damp floor, and he recalls that when he awoke in the morning he could hardly move. He was in the hospital at Chattanooga for fifty days and was then taken with many other wounded soldiers to a point across the river from Bridgeport, Alabama, where they laid out in the woods for five days, then being loaded into box cars. Five weary days were consumed in reaching Murfreesboro, where the train was stopped to take off the dead and those not expected to live, Mr. Lockwood being in the latter class and not far from the former. For thirty days the subject remained at Murfreesboro, and then was able to take advantage of a thirty days' furlough and return home, reaching home on Christmas eve. However, his troubles were not at an end, for three days later he was taken down with small-pox and was confined to his bed for forty days. On his recovery he reported to Camp Chase, Ohio, was exchanged and joined the army again, being thereafter in the great Atlanta campaign with Sherman on his "march to the sea." A participant in the Grand Review at Washington, D. C., the subject received an honorable discharge June 12, 1865, at Indianapolis, and returned to his home.

On March 13, 1866, Mr. Lockwood was united in marriage to Sue M. Foreman, of Baltimore, Maryland, the daughter of J. T. Foreman. Mrs. Lockwood's father, in 1859, traded two steamboats and all the other property he possessed for three thousand acres of land near Tallahassee, Tennessee, which he had never seen, some of it settled by squatters. Here he built a fine home and made many improvements, and continued to live until in 1863, after the battle of Stone's River, he and his family left the estate and came to Gibson county, Indiana. Mr. Foreman was a strong sympathizer with the Union cause, and he never went back to claim the land, nor have

any of his heirs. The family secured a large tract of land near Fort Branch called the Sol Revis farm and here they passed the rest of their days, the father of Mrs. Lockwood dying on this place, as did also his wife. The subject's wife died January 27, 1889, after bearing to Mr. Lockwood the following children: Phoebe Josephine died in infancy; Anna Luella married Stephen Thomas and they live northwest of Greencastle, Indiana; Stephen W. and Francis E. died in infancy; Maud is conducting manicuring and hair dressing parlors at Princeton; Ella is the wife of Joseph Kern, of Princeton; William Rodgers is in the butcher business at Evansville, Indiana; Allen died in infancy.

Following his marriage, Mr. Lockwood engaged in farming near Fort Branch, continuing there until 1871, and after spending a year in Patoka removed to Evansville, where for eighteen years he followed the vocation of carpenter and contractor. In 1890 he came to Princeton and helped build the Southern railroad shops. For the last eight years he has had the Gibson county agency for the medicines and soaps of T. M. Sayman, of St. Louis, and has built up a very remunerative business in this line.

Mr. Lockwood is a remarkably well preserved man for his age, is active and keeps fully posted on current events, his up-to-date and progressive ideas and methods having made him a man whose advice is often sought by his many friends. He is a member of Archer Post, Grand Army of the Republic, at Princeton, and belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church.

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### BENJAMIN KEITH ASHCRAFT.

It is not an easy task to describe adequately a man who has led an eminently active and busy life and who has attained a position of relative distinction in the community in which his interests were allied. But biography finds its most perfect justification nevertheless, in the tracing and recording of such a life history. It is, then, with a full appreciation of all that is demanded and of the painstaking scrutiny that must be accorded each statement, and yet with a feeling of satisfaction, that the writer essays the task of touching briefly upon the details of such a record as was that of the gentleman whose name heads this paragraph, who, though long since passed over that "dark river," yet still lives in the memories of his fellow men as one who lived well his life.

Benjamin Keith Ashcraft was born in Grayson county, Kentucky. His

great-grandfather, Jeremiah Ashcraft, removed in an early day from Pennsylvania to Kentucky and located in Grayson county, where he purchased land for his three sons, Jacob, John and Daniel. After thus giving them a start in life, the great-grandfather of the subject started back to the Keystone state, but on the way was attacked and killed by Indians.

Daniel Ashcraft was the grandfather of the subject. He was a soldier in the border wars during the Indian troubles and was twice wounded, his wife also being wounded once. He was born March 13, 1768, and died June 5, 1842. He married Sarah Dye October 18, 1793. She was born March 21, 1775, and died September 17, 1845.

One of the sons of Daniel Ashcraft was Jediah, the father of the subject. Jediah was born December 12, 1794. He married Ann Wilson, of Grayson county, Kentucky, February 10, 1820, she having been born October 19, 1797. They were the parents of four sons and five daughters and were early settlers in Gibson county. Their children were: Elizabeth, who married a Mr. Lamb; Emily is the wife of Lewis Laws; Benjamin Keith; James and Joseph, who settled in Illinois; Eliza, deceased, never married; Thomas located in Illinois; one daughter died in infancy.

Although the subject received a very limited education, he had become, by constant reading and observation, quite a scholarly man, his remarkable memory being a great help to him in his readings. Early in life he went with his parents to Richland county, Illinois, and settled ten miles southeast of Olney, where he worked out for several years. On August 21, 1860, Mr. Ashcraft was married to Tirzah M. Stewart, of White River township, Gibson county, Indiana, a daughter of Rev. Samuel A. and Lucinda (Howe) Stewart. Rev. Samuel A. Stewart was born in Virginia, and after living in Grayson county, Kentucky, for a period, came to this county and settled in White River township, entering virgin land from the government. In addition to cultivating his land, which comprised one hundred acres, he was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church. His death occurred on the home place, while his wife died in Princeton. Perhaps the most dominant and notable characteristic of Mrs. Ashcraft's father was his fidelity to truth and honor. He invariably sought the things that were "honest and of good report." In the training of his children no precepts were so constantly or so urgently insisted upon as those which concern sound and worthy character. He taught that honor and truthfulness were of such commanding worth that self interests should never under any circumstances set them aside. These principles were the standards by which he estimated men and to which he



religiously held himself. Whatever else he might do or fail to do, he meant to be in all his actions right before his Creator and his fellow men. His life was an inspiration to all who knew him, and his memory remains to his friends and surviving children as a blessed benediction of a noble and upright character. While advancing his individual interests, he never lost sight of his obligations to the community in general, and during his mature life he held a high place in the confidence and esteem of all who knew him.

To the parents of Mrs. Ashcraft were born eleven children: Elizabeth, deceased, was the wife of Andrew Milburn; William S. is deceased; Thomas, who was a farmer in White River township, married Susan Hudelson and both are now deceased; Robert died young; Tirzah, the subject's wife; John Wesley, deceased, was a farmer and a soldier in the Civil war. He married Emma Lawrence, who is now living in White River township; Mary J., the widow of Frank Taylor, a Civil war veteran, lives in Princeton; Nathaniel Floyd, who was also in the army, married Addie Lennox; Sarah Ellen, Rachael and Lucien died young.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Ashcraft lived in Richland county, Illinois, for ten years, and then came to Gibson county, Indiana, and located on the old Stewart homestead in White River township, taking care of Mrs. Stewart in her old age. After her death they continued on the home place until their removal to Princeton, where the subject died on March 17, 1897.

While never seeking public office, Mr. Ashcraft was interested in the success of the Democratic party, while his religious affiliation was with the Methodist Episcopal church. His widow, who was born June 20, 1833, is an estimable lady and is very well known in Princeton and Gibson county. She is very well preserved for her age and is a pleasing woman to converse with. She has done a great deal of hair art work and some painting, her habit being to always be busy.

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#### LUTHER BENSON.

The gentleman whose name appears at the head of this biographical review needs no introduction to the people of Gibson county, since his entire life has been spent here, a life devoted not only to the fostering of his own interests, but also to the welfare of the community at large. An honorable representative of one of the esteemed families of his community and a gentleman of high character and worthy ambitions, he has filled no small place in the public view, as the important official positions he has held bear witness.

He is a splendid type of the intelligent, up-to-date, self-made American in the full sense of the term, a man of the people, with their interests at heart. As a citizen he is progressive and abreast of the times in all that concerns the common weal. Although a partisan, with strong convictions and well defined opinions on questions on which men and parties divide, he has the esteem and confidence of the people of the community and his friends are in number as his acquaintances, regardless of party ties.

Luther Benson, the subject of this sketch, was born January 25, 1877, the son of Sylvester and Nancy A. (Ewing) Benson. Sylvester Benson was born in Montgomery township, Gibson county, July 10, 1823, and has remained in this county since, he now being its oldest living resident, having reached the age of ninety. During his long lifetime he has followed agriculture for a livelihood. He served three terms as a county commissioner, being elected in 1876, 1879 and 1882, and was a member of the board when the present court house was built. His wife died March 10, 1899. They were the parents of eight children, of whom seven survive: William C. lives in Owensville; James E., Benjamin F. and John G. are farmers, and live northwest of Owensville; Mrs. Margaret Johnson lives in Centralia, Illinois; Mrs. Lilly Scott lives on the old home place; Luther. The subject's grandfather, William Benson, came to Gibson county from Kentucky at an early date. 1816

Luther Benson was educated in the common schools of Montgomery township and the Owensville high school, this being supplemented by a course in Indiana University. Deciding on the practice of law for his life work, he began the study of that profession, and was admitted to the bar in 1900, since that time having been actively engaged in his profession, being highly respected, not only for his brilliant legal attainments, but for his intense interest in all that will advance the interests of his community.

On April 5, 1899, Mr. Benson was united in marriage with Gertrude Johnson, daughter of Henry Johnson, of Owensville. This union has been blessed by the birth of two daughters, Pauline and Mary.

The subject has always taken a deep interest in political affairs and was a member of the Indiana Legislature in the session of 1906-7, having been elected on the Republican ticket, during which term he was active in behalf of many good measures and his services as a legislator were highly appreciated by his constituents. Mr. Benson is now allied with the Progressive party.

The Benson family on the paternal side came from good old Irish stock, the great-grandfather, James Benson, having left the Emerald Isle and emi-

grated to America before the Revolutionary war, and in that struggle he was a soldier under General Washington. He settled in Pennsylvania and resided in that state until 1787, when he removed to Miller's Station, Bourbon county, Kentucky, where he lived until his death. He married Mary Taylor, who was born at Little York, Pennsylvania, in 1760, and she died in Gibson county, Indiana. They were the parents of a large family of children, but none is now living. Sylvester Benson, father of the subject, was born July 10, 1823, and learned the trade of wheelwright with his father. He remained at home until the fall of 1845, when his father gave him eighty acres of land, only seven acres of which were improved. Devoting himself industriously to the cultivation and development of his holdings, the subject's father was so successful in his management of affairs that he eventually became one of the largest land owners in the county. He was married July 10, 1867, to Nancy Ann Ewing, who was born in Jasper, Dubois county, Indiana, the daughter of Moses and Nancy (Stillwell) Ewing. Judging from the eminently worthy record of Mr. Benson in the past and the fact that he is only in the prime of life, the future for him will evidently be replete with honor and greater success than he has yet achieved.

### JAMES P. COX.

A man whose influence has been potent for the promotion and dissemination of the literature of the General Baptist church is James P. Cox, who is now editor of the *Baptist Messenger*, of Owensville, Indiana. He was born in Posey county, Indiana, October 5, 1859, the son of Joshua and Caroline (Britton) Cox, his father being a native of Indiana and his mother of Kentucky. Mr. Cox received his common school education in Posey county, and early in life entered a printing office to learn the practical side of printing. After qualifying as a printer he traveled for some years in the West and South as a journeyman printer, settling permanently in Owensville, Indiana, in 1887, where he established the *Baptist Messenger*, a weekly Baptist paper, which covers several states. In addition to his editorial duties as manager of the church paper, he also published the *Gibson County Star*, a local paper, for about fifteen years. In 1914 he sold this local organ to the present owner, but still continues as editor of the *Baptist Messenger*.

In 1900 Mr. Cox took a trip to the Old World and visited England, France, Belgium, Holland and other countries. He attended the Interna-

tional Christian Endeavor convention held in London and also visited the Paris Exposition.

Mr. Cox has always been very active in the affairs of the General Baptist church, and has held various offices in this denomination. He is now secretary of the General Association of General Baptists, also of Liberty Association of General Baptists, as well as secretary of the board of trustees of Oakland City College, which is managed by this church. Fraternally, he is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Tribe of Ben-Hur. Mr. Cox has been a leader in the affairs of his church for many years and his counsel and advice are frequently sought by the members of his denomination. His paper has a wide circulation among the members of this church and is recognized as one of the leading church papers of the country.

Mr. Cox was married in 1900 to Sabra Barton, the daughter of John and Isabel (Barnes) Barton, of Vanderburg county, Indiana. They are the parents of three children. Mr. Cox also has a daughter by a former marriage.

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### ALBERT MILLS.

Agriculture has been an honored vocation from the earliest ages and as a usual thing men of honorable and humane impulses, as well as those of energy and thrift, have been patrons of husbandry. The free out-of-door life of the farmer has a decided tendency to foster and develop that independence of mind and self-reliance which characterizes true manhood and no truer blessing can befall a boy than to be reared in close touch with nature in the healthful, life-inspiring labor of the fields. It has always been the fruitful soil from which have sprung the moral bone and sinew of the country, and the majority of our nation's great warriors, renowned statesmen and distinguished men of letters were born on the farm and were indebted largely to its early influence for the distinction which they have attained.

Albert Mills, who was born about five miles east of Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, on May 5, 1843, was the son of Durston and Louisa (Stapleton) Mills. Durston Mills was born on June 5, 1804, in Kennebec county, Maine, and was married on December 16, 1827, to Louisa Stapleton, who was born on April 28, 1808, in Robinson county, Tennessee. The subject's paternal grandfather, James Mills, was born in Kennebec county, Maine, in 1767, and married Rachel Courson, who was born in Maine in 1769, their marriage occurring in 1789. Their children were Effie, born



ALBERT MILLS AND FAMILY.



in 1790; Richard, born in 1792; Zyasa, born 1794; Asa, in 1796; Bracket, in 1798; Daniel, 1800; James, 1802; Durston, 1804; John, 1806; Mary, 1808; Samuel, 1810, and Caroline, 1812.

James Mills, with his wife and children, left Maine in October, 1810, and came to Indiana in 1811, the long and tiresome journey from Maine being they came by boat to Evansville, then known as Smithville, thence by wagon to Gibson county, settling four miles west of Princeton, on what is known as the Hudelson farm. They lived there for a while, but, on account of milk sickness, they moved to White Oak Hills, four miles east of Princeton, where James Mills bought eight hundred acres of timber land. Here he cleared a place, put up a frame building, in which they started to make a home and clear the land. Eventually they located on what is now known as the Hyslop farm on the Patoka river, where they spent the remaining years of their lives, their deaths occurring as the result of milk sickness. Mr. Mills was a deacon in the Quaker church and a man well known and highly respected. The subject's father was married in November, 1827, and soon afterwards located on one hundred and twenty acres of land in what is now Center township, Gibson county, which he improved and developed into a good farm and which he operated until his death, which occurred on May 14, 1875, being survived by his widow, who died in 1882. He was a cabinet-maker by trade and also a farmer, and built many flat boats on the Patoka river at Wheeling, being one of the first to engage in that work there. He was one of the leading agriculturists of his time in Gibson county and assisted in the organization of the agricultural society here in the early days. He was a Whig in politics during his early years, but on the organization of the Republican party he cast his fortunes with that party. His children were as follows: Berrilla, born March 14, 1829, and a twin, who died in infancy; the former married Joseph Greek; Adelia, born February 14, 1831, became the wife of Charles King; Cecelia Ann, born September 2, 1832, became the wife of Henry Bucklin; Zelissa, born November 8, 1833, became the wife of Samuel Greek; Byron, born January 6, 1835, married Mary Jane Curry; Horace Ames, born November 20, 1838, died at the age of eighteen years; Elvira, born August 15, 1840, died unmarried; Albert and Almena, twins, born May 5, 1843; the latter became the wife of Edgar Mills; John and Mary, twins, born November 19, 1846; John was married twice, first to a Miss Paul and, second, to Fannie King; Mary became the wife of Lewis Olds. Those living of these children are Albert, the subject of this sketch; John, who is

living at Huntingburg, Indiana, is employed with the Southern Railroad Company, and Mary, who lives with a son in California.

The subject of this sketch was deprived of many opportunities for securing education in his youth, the only school in the neighborhood being one of the typical log subscription schools of that period. He lived on the paternal homestead until 1865, when, after his marriage, he and his wife located on a farm in Center township, one and one-half miles northeast of his father's old home. There he obtained eighty acres of land known as the Weidenbach farm, which he cleared and improved, and which he made his home until 1870, when he moved to Princeton. He was elected constable of Patoka township, in which position he served four years and was then interested in the saw-mill business for twenty-five years, also following carpenter work about ten years. He has been employed by the Southern Railroad Company at their shops for the past ten years, and is numbered among their most faithful and efficient employees.

On September 20, 1865, Mr. Mills married Polly Ann Yeager, who was born in Center township, Gibson county, Indiana, the daughter of J. V. and Polly Duncan Yeager. These parents, who were both born and reared in Virginia, came in an early day to Gibson county, Indiana, settling in Center township. Mrs. Mills' paternal grandfather, Daniel Yeager, settled near Owensville, Indiana, where he successfully conducted a farm. His son, J. V., also obtained a tract of wild land in Center township, which he cleared and where he established his permanent home. He died on his uncle Nicholas Yeager's old homestead near Owensville. He was three times married, his second marriage being with Catherine Taylor, and his third wife was Mrs. Elizabeth (Johnson) McCleary, the widow of Willis McCleary. To J. V. Yeager's first marriage were born the following children: Nancy, the widow of Chesterfield Woolsey, who lives near Owensville; Chatty, who became the wife of Samuel Mauck, of near Owensville, and both are now deceased; Greenberry was a soldier in the Civil war, serving for two years with Company B, Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and later being a member of the First Indiana Cavalry. He later became a farmer in Ringold, Texas. He married Sallie Creek. To Albert Mills and wife the following children have been born: Clarence R., who was chief clerk for the roadmaster of the Southern Railroad Company, married Mantha Redmond, and his death occurred on March 27, 1912. His widow now makes her home at New Albany, Indiana. They had two children, Helen and Mildred; Ida M. is at home with her parents; Hortense became the wife of John F. Ligon, of



Williamson, West Virginia, and they have two children, Norman P. and John F., Jr.; Rollin married Willie Marie Mayfield, of Walnut Springs, Texas, a mechanic for the Southern Railroad Company, and they have one child, Rollin Vincent; Hazel, the wife of Ronald E. Mangrum, of Pittsburg, Kansas, and they have two children, Margaret E. and Ronald M.

Reverting to the subject's ancestral history, it is stated that his maternal grandmother, Louisa (Stapleton) Mills, was a daughter of Joshua Stapleton, who was born on January 28, 1782, and who married Elizabeth Elmore, whose birth occurred on July 100, 1788. They came from Robinson county, Tennessee, to Gibson county, Indiana, in 1816, settling five miles east of Princeton in the woods, where they obtained a tract of wild land and here they established their permanent home, the father following the pursuit of farming here until his death. To them were born the following children: Louisa, the subject's mother; Polly, born May 7, 1810; Thirza, born March 9, 1812; Catherine, born April 5, 1814; Minerva, born April 21, 1816; Hannah, born July 13, 1818; Elizabeth, born August 28, 1820; Alexander D., born January 29, 1823; Travis E., born April 22, 1825; Rachel, born November 13, 1827, and Amanda, born October 5, 1830.

Politically, Albert Mills was a staunch supporter of the Republican party up to 1884, when he cast his vote for James G. Blaine for President, but since that time he has been aligned with the Prohibition party, of which he is an enthusiastic supporter, believing that the temperance question is the greatest issue now before the American people. Religiously, he and his wife are members of the United Presbyterian church at Princeton. Mr. Mills is a member of Archer Post, Grand Army of the Republic, at Princeton, of which he is a charter member, his connection with this organization being particularly consistent from the fact that on October 21, 1861, he enlisted in defense of his country as a private in Company B, Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, at Princeton. The command went by boat to Louisville, Kentucky, and then on to the front, taking part in the battles of La Vergne, Stone's River, and at Chickamauga, Tennessee, on September 20, 1863, where Mr. Mills was captured and taken to Richmond, being confined first in Libby prison and later in the Pemberton building. In November, 1863, he was taken to Danville, Virginia, and kept a prisoner there until May, 1864, and was confined in the notorious Andersonville prison until September 10th of that year, when he was taken to Charleston, South Carolina, and kept a prisoner at the Race Course near that point until November 7, 1864, when he was taken to Florence, South

Carolina, remaining there until February 22, 1865. From that point he was taken first to Wilmington, North Carolina, and thence to Goldsboro, that state, and on February 27, 1865, was paroled. While at Wilmington, North Carolina, Mr. Mills was taken very sick with swamp fever and was in the hospital from February until April. He was honorably discharged from the service on April 10, 1865, after an experience of more than ordinary privations and hardships, having been a prisoner of war and in prison seventeen months and six days. Of these experiences he retains a vivid memory and recounts in an interesting manner his experiences in Southern prison pens and stockades. Despite the tremendous hardships undergone by him, he is remarkably well preserved physically, and is keenly alive to passing events, keeping in close touch with the current issues of the day. For some time Mr. Mills has been weather observer for Gibson county. He is widely known throughout this locality and is held in high esteem by all who know him.

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#### LOUIS WIRTH.

Dividing his time between the pursuit of agriculture and the management of a grain elevator, Louis Wirth naturally leads a very busy life, but as he is the possessor of a large amount of energy and perseverance he seems to derive pleasure from the fact that he is kept so busy. Mr. Wirth traces his lineage on both sides of the family back to the land of the Kaiser and the thrift and frugal habits which characterize all of our German population are found in him. He is a man who has known what it is to take disappointments and discouragements and yet through it all he has maintained his optimistic nature and today stands as one of the prosperous citizens of Gibson county.

Louis Wirth, the son of Nicholas and Fredericka (Stolpp) Wirth, was born November 6, 1866, in Baltimore, Maryland. His father was a native of Germany and came to this country when a young man and settled in Baltimore, where he was married. His wife's parents also were natives of Germany. Nicholas Wirth was a tinner by trade and during a long and busy life he was compelled by the force of circumstances to change his place of residence several times in order to obtain employment. In 1860 he moved from Baltimore to Gibson county, and located near Fort Branch on a farm. Previous to his coming to Gibson county he worked in an oyster canning fac-

tory as a tinner at Baltimore, and was also in the employ of the United States government as a tinner. After he lost his place in the government service he came to Gibson county, Indiana. He was more than an ordinary tinner; in fact, he was a positive genius at the work. The government recognized his ability in this line and made him a foreman at Galveston, Texas, with a gang of men under his employ and paid him a salary of seven dollars a day. He invented the first ice cream freezer which had a turning paddle in it, and several other minor inventions, none of which, however, netted him the financial returns which he deserved. Before coming to Gibson county the first time Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Wirth had one child, Lula, who was born in Baltimore and died at the age of four years. The second child, Mrs. Catherine Brothers, who lives about four miles east of Fort Branch, was born in Gibson county, and after her birth the family moved back to Baltimore, where the third child, Mrs. Caroline Woods, of Gibson county, was born. The next child was born on the second return to Gibson county from Maryland. This child, Fredericka Cannavan, now lives on a farm in Patoka township. His fortunes turned again and for the third time the family returned to Baltimore from Gibson county, and there the fifth child, Louis, the immediate subject of this brief sketch, was born in 1866. Some time later Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Wirth again moved back to Indiana, settling in Pike county, where the sixth and seventh children, Charles W. and Joseph, were born. Charles W. is a farmer living two and one-half miles northwest of Buckskin, Indiana; Joseph died in infancy. Some time after the birth of the two last named children, the family moved to Gibson county, where the eighth child, Nicholas, was born, and he now lives on the old home place near Fort Branch, where his father died March 21, 1895, his wife surviving him until June 7, 1907. Thus ends the career of Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Wirth, who were good, substantial German citizens, rearing a large family and doing their full duty toward their home and the nation throughout their whole career. The fact that when Mr. Wirth was out of work in one place he had that he was a man of more than ordinary ability and certainly more than the courage to go to some other place in order to secure employment, shows ordinary courage.

Louis Wirth, as may be seen from the foregoing account, must have inherited some of the wonderful stamina and perseverance which characterized his parents and a review of his life shows this to be the fact. He was educated in common schools and completed the course in the Fort Branch

high school in Gibson county. His boyhood days were spent on the farm where he learned the science of farming in a very practical manner. When he became twenty-five years of age he married and immediately moved onto a farm and started to make his fortune. After working on the farm for three years, he moved to Haubstadt and clerked in a store there for three or four months, but seeing a better chance of success on the farm, he returned to his agricultural pursuits. In August, 1899, he went to work for the Cumberland Telephone Company at Nashville, Tennessee, and learned all of the intricacies of this business. Within a short time he came back to Indiana and took charge of the telephone exchange at Boonville, where he remained for one year. He then returned to his farm, where he worked with a will for the next five years, getting his farm into a high state of cultivation and adding to it. He inherited forty acres of land from his father, and by his thrift and economical way of living he added another forty acres to this. After a prosperous five years on the farm he received an opportunity of taking control of the Evansville Melrose Milling Company, having worked prior for the Princeton Elevator Company. and shortly afterward was transferred to the grain elevator at King's Station in his home county. The company sold this elevator and he then went to the Weese Welborn Company, of Princeton, where he has continued in charge for the past nine years. During all of this time he has lived on his own farm and has had general management of it. He rents out his fields and in this way keeps a close supervision upon everything that is done on his farm. He now has a fine home, good barns and out-buildings and his farm is in first class condition in every particular.

Louis Wirth was married June 2, 1891, to Lillie Olmstadt, the daughter of S. L. and Martha (Montgomery) Olmstadt, both of her parents being natives of Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Wirth are the parents of two children, one who died in infancy, and Gladys, born June 24, 1904. Mr. Wirth, in his political affiliations, has always identified himself with the Democratic party, but has always confined his political activities to the casting of his vote at all elections. Fraternally, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America at Princeton. He is a member of the Christian church at Princeton and his wife of the General Baptist church at White church, near Princeton. Mr. Wirth is one of the best known of the German citizens of Gibson county, and his career has been without a blemish in every respect. He is a pleasant man to meet, possessing sociable qualities and bears a reputation for honesty throughout the county.

## JOHN K. KING.

A review of the life of the honored and lamented subject of this sketch must of necessity be brief and general in its character. To enter fully into the interesting details of his career, touching the struggles of his early manhood and successes of later days, would far transcend the limits of this article. He filled a large place in the ranks of the enterprising and public-spirited men of his day and generation and the luster of his deeds and the memories which attach to his name and character form no inconsiderable chapter in the history of the community where he did his work and achieved his success. Sufficient is submitted, we believe, to prove him entitled to the honorable position he long occupied among the brave and energetic self-made men of Indiana, who by enterprise and unswerving integrity forged to the front despite all opposition and won for the grand old Hoosier state a place second to none in the bright constellation comprising the Union of American states. That he did his part nobly and well cannot be gainsaid, and, though dead, he yet speaketh in the work which he accomplished and in the many kindly deeds and wholesome influence which not only his friends, but the community as well, prize as a grateful heritage.

John K. King was born in Gibson county, Indiana, October 30, 1833, and died at his home in Princeton on September 2, 1911. He was a son of John and Sarah (Kirkman) King, his father a native of North Carolina, his mother an orphan who was reared by Judge Henry Hopkins, the man who gave the land for the site of the present city of Princeton. The original King family came from Virginia. Samuel King, the father of John King, came from North Carolina to Indiana and settled in Gibson county near Fort Branch when that place was only an Indian post. At that time the father of the subject of this sketch was a babe in arms. Here he was reared to manhood and here married Sarah Kirkman in 1818 and immediately after their marriage they entered government land near King's Station. To Mr. and Mrs. John King were born ten children, only two of whom are living, Henry, who lives at Mitchell, South Dakota, and Jane, who lives with John K. King's widow. The other eight children are as follows: George W., born in 1820; Nancy Ann, 1821; Samuel, 1823; Robert, 1825; William, 1827; Caroline, 1831; John K., 1833; Henry, 1835; Louisa, 1839; James, 1840.

John K. King received a very limited education, his schooling being confined to the district schools. He was reared to the life of a farmer and followed that occupation throughout his life. At the outbreak of the Civil war

he enlisted in Company A, Eightieth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served throughout the entire war as a private. He saw service in some of the hardest fought battles of that memorable struggle, and was wounded at the battle of Resaca, Georgia. Immediately after the close of the war he returned to Gibson county, where he was married in 1866 to Helen Hopkins, and bought his father's farm from the rest of the heirs and continued to operate this farm until he retired from active life in 1897 and moved to Princeton. To Mr. and Mrs. John K. King were born four children, all of whom are living in the city of Princeton at the present time, Charles K., J. Herbert, Roy P. and Mrs. Ruth Mulhall.

Throughout his long life Mr. King was a staunch supporter of the Republican party and was a prominent figure in the local campaigns of his party. He was never an applicant for public office, but upon one occasion he was induced to accept the office of township assessor and discharged the duties of that office in Patoka township to the entire satisfaction of his fellow citizens. The only organization with which he was connected in a fraternal way was the Grand Army of the Republic, and in this he took a great deal of interest. His religious affiliations were with the Methodist Episcopal church. It is needless to say that Mr. King worked hard and honorably and the reputation which he enjoyed as one of the public-spirited citizens of his locality was honestly earned, and his name will ever be linked with that of the community so long honored by his citizenship and whose interests had no more zealous and sympathetic supporter. He lived a life of which his children may well be proud and it is to their credit that they are carrying forward nobly the work which characterized the whole life of their father and are doing their full share towards elevating the moral and civic life of their community.

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#### MRS. SARAH A. YOUNGMAN.

Wholly devoted to home and domestic duties, doing through all the best years of her life the lowly but sacred work that comes within her sphere, there is not much to record concerning the average woman. And yet, what station so dignified, what relation so loving and endearing, what offices so holy, tender and ennobling as those of home-making, wifehood and motherhood. A man's equal in every qualification except the physical, and his superior in the gentle, tender and loving amenities of life, she fully merits



MRS. SARAH A. YOUNGMAN.





a much larger notice than she ordinarily receives, and the writer of these lines is optimistic enough to indulge in the prediction that in no distant future she will receive due credit for the important part she acts in life's great drama and be accorded her proper place in history and biography. The foregoing lines are prompted by a review of the life of one of Princeton's grand old ladies, Mrs. Sarah A. Youngman, who is numbered among the most respected and esteemed residents of this favored community.

George Forbes, father of Mrs. Youngman, was born in Ireland. When a young man he came to America, and finally took up his abode in Princeton, being one of the pioneers of the community. He was engaged in farming all of his life. His wife was Ann Kirkman, and to them were born six children: Jane, who married Logan Gathway, both deceased; Elizabeth, who became the wife of Alexander Span, and both are now dead; Mary, who married David Snyder, both deceased; Abner, the sole son of the family, who never married. He was a farmer; Emily, who became the wife of Warren Hudspeth, and both have died; Sarah Ann (Mrs. Youngman) was the third child, and was born in Princeton on October 22, 1827. Mrs. George Forbes was a great worker in the Methodist Episcopal church and reared her family in strict accordance with its tenets. Her death occurred in 1842, the same year as that of her husband.

Mrs. Youngman's first husband was Lewis Carpenter. Their marriage was solemnized December 27, 1849, and he died in 1852. By trade he was a plasterer and bricklayer. One child came to this union, William Louis, a blacksmith of Princeton, Indiana, whose first wife was Dora Spain. His second wife was Lillie Williams, and to them have been born three children, Louis, Nellie and Lucille.

In 1854 Mrs. Youngman was married to William Thurston, a merchant of Pennsylvania. One child was born to this union, Emma Jane, who is the wife of Charles Small, of Evansville, Indiana. In February, 1867, she was married to Jacob C. Youngman, of Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana. He was engaged in the real estate business. He went to California later, and there died. One daughter, Katherine, was born to this union June 3, 1868, who is one of the leading music teachers of Princeton and makes her home with her mother.

Mrs. Youngman has always been an advocate of the highest and best in womanhood and, despite her advanced age, retains her mental and physical faculties to a marked degree, honored and respected by all who know her.

She was an active business woman for many years, having engaged in the millinery business for a period of twenty-five years, also conducting a hotel for many years. In the year 1876 she retired from active business life, having made a great success of her undertakings. Mrs. Youngman is now the oldest living woman who was born in Gibson county, Indiana.

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### FRANKLIN TURPIN.

The gentleman of whom the biographer now writes is widely known as one of the honored pioneers of Gibson county, and for almost three-quarters of a century has lived here, since reaching mature years having been a valued factor in the development of this community. His well-directed energies in the practical affairs of life, his capable management of his own interests and his sound judgment have demonstrated what may be accomplished by the man of energy and ambition, who, persevering often in the face of seemingly insurmountable obstacles, proves that he is possessed of those innate qualities that never fail to bring success if properly directed, as they have evidently been in the case of that honored and respected veteran of the Civil war and successful agriculturist, whose name heads this biographical review.

Franklin Turpin was born in Washington township, Gibson county, Indiana, April 8, 1840, the son of Alfred and Mahala (Mayhall) Turpin, natives of Kentucky, who came with their parents to Gibson county at an early date. Alfred was a son of William Turpin, of Ireland, who married a Miss Slavin. William came to America as a young man and first resided in Henderson county, Kentucky, removing to Gibson county, Indiana, in 1830, and locating in the forest in Washington township, where he wrested a home from the wilderness and lived the rest of his days. William Turpin and wife were the parents of six children, namely: Alfred, the subject's father; Isaac, who lived in Washington township, but died in Knox county; Jefferson and Calvin also lived in Washington township; Betsey and Sarah.

The subject's maternal grandfather, William Mayhall, was known as "Uncle Billy." He was a native of Kentucky and came to Gibson county about 1830, first settling in White River township and later in Washington township. He died on his place five miles north of Princeton. He was the father of two children by his first marriage: Mahala, the subject's mother, and Dudley, who lived in Washington township. William Mayhall was married a second time.

Alfred Turpin, the subject's father, grew up on his father's farm, acquiring but a limited education in the subscription schools of his boyhood days. On reaching mature years he acquired some wild land on the Patoka river near Hazelton, where he made a home and spent his days in farming, becoming widely known as a successful agriculturist and a well informed man. He and his wife died in 1846 within twelve hours of each other of what was known as "black tongue," and both were buried in the same grave on the old Joe Milburn place northeast of Princeton. They were the parents of five children: Asa is retired and lives in Oakland City. He was a member of the First Indiana Volunteer Cavalry in the Civil war; Franklin; Isaac, Jefferson and Elizabeth are deceased.

Franklin Turpin received such schooling as was common in those days and grew up on the home farm. On August 16, 1861, he enlisted in Company F, Thirty-third Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, at Princeton, Indiana, and after being outfitted and drilled at the camp at Indianapolis, was sent to Camp Dick Robinson, from which place they marched to Wild Cat Mountain and were in battle there. From that point they went to Crab Orchard and from there to Lexington, Kentucky, where they were stationed until April, 1862, when they marched to the Cumberland mountains, and from that locality were dispatched to Greenspoint, Kentucky, on the Ohio river. Under the command of Gen. George W. Morgan, of Ohio, they went to Cincinnati, crossed the river to Covington and marched to Lexington, from there to Danville, then to Nashville and Franklin, Tennessee, and were engaged in the battle at Thompson's Station on March 5, 1863, when Mr. Turpin and his comrades were captured by the Confederates and taken to the famous Libby prison. Being paroled after spending seventeen days in that place, the subject returned to Indianapolis on a ten days' furlough, and after his exchange went to Franklin, Tennessee, and subsequently was in the fighting at Murfreesboro, Geier's Gap, Tallahassee and Christiania. His original term of enlistment having expired, Mr. Turpin re-enlisted and, after a thirty days' furlough spent at home, he rejoined his command and was in the fighting around Chattanooga, Buzzard Roost and Snake Creek Gap, then being sent to Atlanta and taking part in the Atlanta campaign, during which he was seriously ill for about six days. The subject was with Sherman on his famous "march to the sea," and subsequently leaving Savannah, Georgia, his command crossed the river and marched through South Carolina to Bentonville, North Carolina, where Mr. Turpin was again captured and taken back to Libby prison. After enduring many hardships in that

bastile, he was returned on parole to Indianapolis, and through Governor Morton secured a thirty days' furlough and returned to his home, being honorably discharged from the service of his country August 6, 1865.

On September 3, 1868, the subject was married to Jane Moore, of Washington township, Gibson county, the daughter of John C. and Elizabeth (Dawson) Moore, he a native of South Carolina and she of Kentucky. John C. Moore was a son of John C., who married Anna Boyles. John C. Moore, Sr., came from Kentucky at an early date and settled in Washington township, Gibson county, where he cleared land and made a home at a point where Moore's bridge is located, he and his wife spending the remainder of their lives there. To them were born five children: John C., the father of Mrs. Turpin; Joe, Ed, Rachael and Joann. Elizabeth Dawson was the daughter of John and Mary (Dere) Dawson. John was a soldier in the Black Hawk war, under General Scott, of Vincennes. He settled in pioneer times in Washington township, Gibson county, where he lived the rest of his life. He was the father of six children, Elizabeth, Shelton, Thomas, Logan, Smith and Jane. The children of John C. and Elizabeth Moore were: (1) Ann is the widow of David McMillan and lives in southern California. He was a member of Company B, First Indiana Volunteer Cavalry. (2) Elizabeth, deceased, married Michael Turpin and they had one son, Henry. She was married a second time, to Benjamin Fields. (3) John C., deceased, married Mary Phillips, who also is deceased. (4) Rebecca married Lewis Van Coupen, who served three years and ten months in Company F, Thirty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and they had three children. Both are deceased. (5) The subject's wife. (6) Joe, a retired farmer living at Princeton, married Harriett Turpin and they have three children living. His second marriage, with Mary Phillips, resulted in the birth of two children, who are living. Joe was in the One Hundred and Forty-seventh Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry. (7) Ed is a farmer in Center township. He was married three times, first to Nettie Page, second to Jane Icloup, and third to Ann Withers. (8) Celia, deceased, was the wife of Thomas Jones and they had four children. (9) David, deceased, married Mary Key, and they had two children. He was a farmer in Washington township. (10) Sarah Ellen is deceased. (11) Emma is deceased.

To the subject and wife have been born six children, as follows: Maude, who died in her thirty-fourth year, was the wife of Green Patrick, who also is deceased; Lon, a farmer in Patoka township, married Rose

Blair and they have four children; Ruth married Oak Blackest, of Patoka township, and they have six children; Celia married James McIntire, a Patoka township farmer, and they have two children; John, a conductor on the Vandalia railroad, and formerly with the Southern railroad for ten years, lives in St. Louis. He married Lillian Parks and they have one daughter; Eliza married Henry E. Crane and they have three children.

After his marriage, Mr. Turpin and wife located in Knox county, Indiana, where he had a saw-mill for two or three years, and then returned to Washington township, this county, and took up farming, continuing at this until 1897, when they moved to Princeton, where he has since been engaged at carpenter work. In political matters, Mr. Turpin has ever given his support to the Republican party, while in his religious affiliations he is a consistent member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church.

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### DANIEL N. TICHENOR.

The biographies of successful men are instructive as guides and examples, as well as incentives to those whose careers are yet to be achieved. The examples they furnish of patient purpose and consecutive endeavor strongly illustrate what is in the power of each to accomplish. The gentleman whose life story herewith is briefly set forth is a conspicuous example of one who has lived to good purpose and achieved a definite degree of success in the special sphere to which his talents and energies have been devoted.

Daniel N. Tichenor was born in Nelson county, Kentucky, on March 24, 1820, the son of Ebenezer and Susan (Bull) Tichenor, both also natives of Nelson county. His mother died in 1840, but the father had come to Gibson county, Indiana, by wagon, about 1833, settling in Montgomery township, where he acquired a rough piece of unimproved land, the soil being wet and almost uncultivable. Here Mr. Tichenor stayed for a while, finally securing land near White church, in Patoka township, southwest of Princeton, where he built himself a log cabin and started to clear a permanent home. Some time after the death of his first wife, he married Peggy Barker, a native of Indiana. He was a hard-working man and succeeded in improving his farm into one of the best in his locality. He and his wife both died on that farm. Politically, he was a Democrat, while his religious membership was with the General Baptist church, holding membership in this church in Patoka town-

ship. By his first union were born the following children: Elizabeth, who was twice married, first to John Burton, and second, to William Simmons, and she now lives near Fort Branch, Indiana; Daniel M., the subject of this sketch; Hannah, deceased; Jacob, deceased. To the second union were born the following children: Charity, deceased, who was the wife of Wesley Johnson; William, deceased, formerly of Patoka township.

After the death of the subject's mother, he took the other children back to Kentucky and lived for a while with a family by the name of Brewer on Green river, and later with an uncle, Collier Tichenor, for a while. He had no opportunity to secure a school education and learned mainly by habits of observation of men and events. Subsequently he came back to Gibson county and worked out at farming labor until after his first marriage, when he bought his father's old homestead farm, on which he has since lived and to which he has added until he is now the owner of three hundred and fifty-one acres in Patoka township, located near the White church, and which is one of the best agricultural tracts in the township. He has always followed farming and has been a hard-working man, his industry and perseverance being rewarded by the splendid success which has attended his efforts. He and his wife started in life in a small way, but have achieved a most pronounced success and enjoy the esteem of all who knew them, because of their honest and successful efforts. In the fall of 1901 Mr. Tichenor retired and moved to Princeton, buying an attractive residence at No. 404 North Spring street, where he now lives, enjoying the fruits of his former labor. He was a practical agriculturist during his active years and in addition to raising diversified crops, gave a good deal of his attention to the raising of fine horses, among which was the noted stallion, "Lexington," also raising with equal success many fine cattle.

Daniel Tichenor first married Eliza Jane Brown, of Gibson county, Indiana, to which union was born a son, Albert, who died in youth. On January 27, 1855, Mr. Tichenor married Eliza Jane Mounts, who was born on August 4, 1835, in Edwards county, Illinois, and to them were born the following children: Lewis, who died in infancy; George, born September 19, 1867, is a farmer in Patoka township, and married Melvina Sweppy; Julia, born September 3, 1860, died on May 25, 1864; Louisa, born October 4, 1863, became the wife of Thomas Richards, but is now deceased, leaving three children, Lora, Harvey and Essie; James, born November 13, 1866, and who is a farmer in Patoka township, married Cora West; Olive O., born in June, 1872, became the wife of George Benton, an interurban motorman; Elmer, born October 1, 1876, followed farming for a while, but is now em-

ployed in the Southern railroad shops at Princeton. He married Pearl Smith. Mrs. Tichenor is the daughter of Thomas and Ann (Lagrange) Mounts, both of whom were born and reared in Kentucky, in Nelson county, her father being a pioneer settler of Edwards county, Illinois, where he successfully followed farming. To himself and wife were born seven children, namely: Mary, Henry, William, Nancy, Betty, Eliza Jane and Isaac, all of whom are deceased, excepting Mrs. Tichenor.

Politically, Mr. Tichenor has always given his earnest support to the Democratic party, and, though taking an active and intelligent interest in local public affairs, he has been content with the casting of an honest ballot, but never aspiring to public office on his own account. Religiously, he and his wife are earnest and faithful members of the General Baptist church, to which they contribute of their time and substance. Dependent very largely upon his own resources from his early youth, Mr. Tichenor has attained no insignificant success, and though he may have, like most men of affairs, encountered obstacles and met with reverses, he has pressed steadily forward, ever willing to work for the end he has in view. He is a man of splendid personality, and because of his industrious habits and the success he has attained, he enjoys the esteem of the community in which he resides.

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### HENRY TICHENOR.

Among the prominent men of Gibson county who have made their impress on the community in which they have lived is Henry Tichenor, the present postmaster of Princeton, Indiana. He was born March 10, 1858, about one-half mile west of Princeton, and has spent his whole life in the county of his nativity. His parents were William N. and Elizabeth (Johnson) Tichenor, his father being born in Kentucky, December 25, 1826. William Tichenor came to Gibson county with his parents, Daniel and Jane (Glover) Tichenor, when he was a small boy and at the time of his death was one of the most substantial citizens in the county. Mr. and Mrs. William N. Tichenor were the parents of a family of four children: James Albert, deceased; Daniel, deceased; Henry, the subject of the immediate sketch; Oliver Morton, deceased, who was postmaster of Princeton at one time. Mrs. William N. Tichenor is still living at the old family homestead on Emerson street.

Henry Tichenor attended the common schools of Princeton and after



his marriage began to farm in his home township. After farming for some years he moved to Princeton and engaged in the transfer business. He has always taken a prominent part in Republican politics and his party has signally recognized his ability by electing him as county chairman on two different occasions. In recognition of his efficient service to the party, President William Howard Taft appointed him on April 13, 1910, to the postmaster-ship at Princeton, a position which he is still holding.

Mr. Tichenor was married on August 12, 1883, to Ida Teague, of Indianapolis. They have no children. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Tichenor is a modest, unassuming man who takes a keen interest in the affairs of the day and because of the consistent conduct of his life has a large circle of friends and acquaintances throughout the county where he has spent his whole life.

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#### FRED ROBERT EWING.

It is a well-known fact that public opinion really rules this country. It was the insistent cry of the public which forced through the last two amendments to the Constitution of the United States, and it was this same influence which led President Wilson to insist upon a reduction in the tariff and the passage of the new monetary bill through Congress. Public opinion, however, would be useless without it had the opportunity to find expression, and there is no way by which public opinion can find its full usefulness except through newspapers. For this reason it is not too much to say that newspapers of our country really are the rulers; that they have more power in the shaping of the destinies of our nation than Congress itself. Congress can do no more than voice the will of the people as set forth in the newspapers. There are very few towns in Indiana today which do not have a publication of some kind, and during the last year the newspaper directory gives nearly eight hundred publications of one kind and another in the state of Indiana. Among the leading Republican papers of the southern part of the state the *Clarion News*, of Gibson county, stands as one of the best papers in its class.

Fred Robert Ewing, the son of John William and Ella (Fellows) Ewing, was born December 28, 1876, in the town where he has lived all his life. His father was a native of this county, his mother being born in Greene county. Fred R. Ewing received his common school and high school education in the Princeton city schools, graduating from the Princeton high school







JOHN W. EWING.



FRED R. EWING.



in June, 1895. Immediately after graduation from the high school, he entered the State University of Indiana at Bloomington, where he took a prominent part in various college activities. While in attendance at the University he was a member of the Sigma Chi Greek-letter fraternity, and still takes an active interest in this organization. After leaving the university he began newspaper work as a reporter on the Princeton *Daily Democrat*, and six months later he joined the force of the Princeton *Evening News*. In 1901, in association with Samuel R. Adams and James W. Westfall, he purchased from Gilbert R. Stormont, the Princeton *Daily and Weekly Clarion*, Ewing becoming the editor and general manager of the paper. A year later the *Clarion* was consolidated with the Princeton *Evening and Weekly News*, Mr. Ewing still continuing as editor and manager. Under his management the paper increased in circulation and as a result its advertising increased until Mr. Ewing felt able to acquire a controlling interest in the Clarion Publishing Company, and since that time he has held the majority interest and control of the *Clarion-News* corporation. He owns the newspaper property, which is the official organ of the Republican party in Gibson county and exerts no small influence in local politics. Mr. Ewing has associated with him George B. Grigsby as business manager and Charles E. McCormick as city editor.

Mr. Ewing has been active in Republican politics in Gibson county, and in view of the fact that he is the editor of the official Republican paper of the county, his influence is second to that of no other man in the county. He has served as precinct committeeman, county vice-chairman, and in February of 1913, was elected county chairman.

Mr. Ewing was married June 14, 1900, in Evansville, Indiana, to Louise Horrall, the daughter of Seth O. and Mary (Herrod) Horrall, and to this union has been born one daughter, Mary Eleanor.

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#### MICHAEL MCGOWAN.

The Emerald Isle has furnished thousands of good, substantial citizens for our great commonwealth, and the community which receives them may well count themselves fortunate. Wherever they go they are always found among the substantial citizens of the community in which they settle and the sunshine which radiates from their personality is proverbial throughout the world. A true son of Erin is a man who has the spirit of optimism developed

to the highest degree and his good nature is welcomed everywhere. It is related of a man who was sick that when he was told that there were just two men left in the village who were not sick and that they were a physician and an Irishman, he at once said, "Bring me the Irishman." He probably felt that the Irishman would do him more good than the physician.

Michael McGowan, one of the self-made and highly respected men of Princeton, was born January 3, 1870, at Walnut Hill, Pennsylvania. His parents were Michael and Mary (McNurtney) McGowan. His father was born in Brooklyn, New York, and died in Florida. He was a surface boss in coal mines. His wife was a native of Ireland, and her death occurred in Kentucky. They were the parents of four children, Kate, John, Michael and Charles.

Michael McGowan, the third child in order of birth, received a very limited common school education and early in life was put upon his own resources. He started to learn the machinist's trade and because he was an apt pupil he made rapid progress in acquainting himself with the details of the work. While still a young man he was a fireman on the Louisville & Nashville Railroad for a short time and later was promoted to the responsible position of engineer on the same line. The next seventeen years of his life were spent in the engineer's cab on the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, and during all that time his record was absolutely clear. The responsibilities which face the engineer in his cab every day are greater than those in any other occupation and only men of the steadiest nerve and clearest mind and eye can hold his position as long as Mr. McGowan did. After seventeen years of hard service on the railroad Mr. McGowan retired from the engineer's cab and took employment with the Southern Railroad Company in their shops at Princeton, Indiana, where he could be at home. He is still in the employ of this company in their shops, and is accounted one of the most capable workers which the company has in its employ today.

Michael McGowan was married on April 25, 1895, to Mary E. Christian, of Princeton, the daughter of Charles and Bridget (McDaniel) Christian. Mrs. McGowan's father, better known as "Uncle Charlie," was born in Kilkenny, Ireland, and settled in Princeton after coming to this country, building the house which is now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. McGowan and family and her mother. Christian street in Princeton was named for Charles Christian, and when he died on September 25, 1889, his death was mourned by the whole city. He was a man who was well liked by everybody and was especially a great friend of the children. If a man is to be judged by the

amount of good he does in this world, then "Uncle Charlie" will receive a great reward in the next world. His widow is still living with her son-in-law, at the age of ninety-three years, and is remarkably active and well preserved for a woman of her age. Mr. and Mrs. Christian were the parents of four children: Mary, who died in infancy; Thomas, of Princeton, Indiana, who married Lizzie Shank; Mary E., wife of the subject, and John, who lives with Mr. and Mrs. McGowan. To Mr. and Mrs. McGowan have been born six children: Margaret, who died at the age of sixteen months; Irma, who died at the age of sixteen years; Charles, Anna Mary, Thomas and Wilmer. The family are devout Catholics and contribute liberally of their means to the support of this denomination. Mr. McGowan is a genial man, unassuming and quiet in his demeanor and easily makes and retains friends, and because of his high personal qualities he is eminently entitled to representation in a work of the character of the one in hand

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### WILLIAM DONALD DOWNEY.

Prominent in the affairs of Gibson county and distinguished as a citizen whose influence is far extended beyond the limits of the community honored by his residence, the name of William Donald Downey stands out a conspicuous figure among the successful business men of the locality of which this volume treats. All of his undertakings have been actuated by noble motives and high resolves and characterized by breadth of wisdom and strong individuality and his success and achievements but represent the result of fit utilization of innate talent in directing effort along those lines where mature judgment and rare discrimination lead the way.

William Donald Downey, who for over a half century has been numbered among the leading business men of Gibson county, and who is now prominently identified with one of its most influential financial institutions, was born on March 18, 1834, in Posey county, Indiana, the son of Rev. Alexander and Nancy Downey. These parents, who were also natives of Posey county, were of Scotch-Irish descent. They were reared and married in their native community, where the father became an active and forceful minister of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. He also owned and operated a large farm. In 1839 he went to Dubois county, Indiana, and settled on a two-hundred-acre farm west of Jasper, but eventually moved to Newburg, Indiana, in order to educate his children, and was there living when his

death occurred, on May 17, 1848. His wife died on November 7, 1854. They were the parents of five children, James Porter, born February 6, 1830, was a farmer, but is now deceased. Alexander Lowery, born January 19, 1832, was a merchant, but is now retired and lives in Princeton. William Donald, the immediate subject of this sketch. Elizabeth Ann, born August 27, 1837, is the widow of John DeBruler, and is living in DuBois county, this state. Francis Marion, born August 30, 1840, was a soldier in the Civil war and was a member of the Sixty-first Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, which became a mounted command, and Mr. Downey was wounded during active service, from the effects of which he died.

William Donald Downey, after completing his common school course, entered the Newburg Academy, at Newburg, Indiana, where he completed the course. His first active effort in life on his own account was as clerk in a store in Evansville, Indiana, where he was employed until 1851, when he came to Princeton and opened a general store on the southeast corner of the square. He was successful and later took in a partner, the firm being known as Downey & Wilburn for many years. Eventually he bought the interest of his partner and conducted the store himself until August, 1912, when he disposed of it and retired from active life. Thus for a period of over half a century he was closely identified with the business interests of Princeton, and because of his eminent success, sterling qualities of character and his genial disposition he has enjoyed the respect and esteem of the entire community. Mr. Downey was one of the organizers of the Farmers Bank at Princeton, and was the first president, serving in this capacity for many years, but eventually, owing to the demands of his private business, he declined the chief office in this institution and became vice-president, a position which he now holds, and a large share of the success which characterized this popular institution being due to the personal efforts and influence of the subject of this sketch.

On October 24, 1868, Mr. Downey was united in marriage to Octavia Hall, a daughter of Judge Samuel and Elizabeth Prince Hall, natives of Princeton, but of French extraction. Judge Hall was for many years a leading lawyer of Princeton, and was a man of high character and widely recognized ability. His wife was the daughter of William Prince, who was either the first or the second settler in Princeton, and after whom the town was named. He was a prominent man in his day, and served efficiently as an Indian agent for the government, as well as in other important official capacities. Mrs. Downey died on January 14, 1911. To Mr. and Mrs. Downey were born three children, Samuel Russell, who is a traveling sales-



man living in New York City, married Mary Stratton. Winchester Hall, who died on July 21, 1911, had been engaged in business with his father. He married Minnie Benham, and to them was born one child. Mrs. Downey now lives in California. Celeste Prince became the wife of Floyd J. Briggs, a druggist at Princeton, and they have one daughter, Nancy Celeste.

In his political views Mr. Downey has always stood allied with the Republican party, and has taken an intelligent interest in all public questions, on which he is well informed and regarding which he holds decided opinions. Religiously, he has for many years been a member of the Presbyterian church of Princeton, and has been an elder for a long while. Mr. Downey has been a valued factor in the development of the community with which he has been so long identified, and has given his support unreservedly to the movements which have promised to benefit the community, educationally, morally, etc. His well-directed energies in the practical affairs of life, his capable management of his own business interests and his sound judgment have demonstrated what may be accomplished by a man of energy and ambition, who, persevering in the face of obstacles, proves that he is the possessor of those innate qualities that never fail to bring success if properly directed. He is a man of splendid personality and enjoys to a marked degree the esteem and respect of the community in which he resides.

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#### FRANCIS M. GRIGSBY.

This honored veteran of the Civil war is to be designated one of the progressive and influential citizens of Gibson county, where for nearly three-quarters of a century he has maintained his home, figuring as one of the builders of the community and especially worthy of consideration in this work. He has, by his industry and sound judgment, not only gained a competency for his old age, but he has materially assisted in the general welfare of the community, in many ways lending his time and influence to the promulgation of various uplifting movements.

Francis M. Grigsby was born in Gibson county, Indiana, August 18, 1842, the son of George and Eliza Lamasters. The father was a plasterer by trade and spent his entire life in Posey county, Indiana, as did his wife. He died in 1846, and his wife, who was born in Newburg, Indiana, passed away in 1844. To the subject's parents were born three children, namely: Robert, who was a farmer in White county, Illinois, is deceased; Elizabeth,

deceased, was the wife of Joseph Reed; Francis M. The paternal grandfather of the subject, Simeon Lamasters, was a soldier in the Mexican war.

Until he reached the age of nineteen, Mr. Grigsby lived with an uncle and aunt, Joseph and Mary Makemson, who resided in Patoka township, six miles northeast of Princeton. The education of the subject was very meager and acquired in a short term in the old subscription school, which is still standing and is now part of a barn on the Adamon Makemson place. At the outbreak of the Civil war Mr. Grigsby was among those valiant sons of the North who went forth to preserve the Union. He enlisted at Princeton, Gibson county, September 16, 1861, in Company F, Thirty-third Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and after being mustered in and equipped at Indianapolis, the company was dispatched to Louisville, Kentucky, where they were for a brief period at Camp Dick Robinson, and were then sent on toward the front, taking part in battles and skirmishes at Wild Cat, London and Crab Orchard, Kentucky, and at Cumberland Gap. They were engaged in the fighting at Nashville and Franklin, Tennessee, at Thompson's Station (or Spring Hill) and many minor engagements. In the battle at Thompson's Station Mr. Grigsby, along with eleven hundred and fifty others, was captured and sent to Libby prison, where he was confined for thirty days, subsequently being paroled and returned to Indianapolis. After ten days' furlough, the subject rejoined the same company and regiment, and, after another leave of thirty days, was with his command in the Atlanta campaign and "marched to the sea" with Sherman. After taking part in the Grand Review at the capital, Mr. Grigsby and his comrades were honorably discharged in Louisville, Kentucky, July 21, 1865.

In the fall of 1867 the subject was married to Lucy Finney, daughter of James and Sarah Finney, who were pioneer settlers in Gibson county.

After their marriage the subject and his wife took up their residence on the McCullough farm, two miles west of Oakland City, Indiana, where they remained for one year and then removed to Patoka township, Gibson county, and there for eighteen years carried on agriculture. In 1887 they moved to Princeton, and Mr. Grigsby followed the trade of a carpenter for six years. At the present time the subject is holding the position of custodian of the public library and of the Methodist Episcopal church, which he has efficiently filled for the last eight years. To him and his wife have been born eight children, as follows: Sadie is the wife of W. P. Hill, of Los Angeles, California, and she is a trained nurse; John lives in Princeton and is a carpenter; Ed is deceased; Lena is the wife of John Finney, of Princeton; Ben is deceased; Fern and Elizabeth are at home.

Mr. Grigsby is a member of the Archer Post, Grand Army of the Republic, at Princeton, and belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a well known man in his community, is well preserved and keeps thoroughly posted on current topics of the day.

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### GEORGE BINHACK.

Specific mention is made of many of the worthy citizens of Gibson county within the pages of this book, citizens who have figured in the growth and development of this favored locality and whose interests are identified with its every phase of progress, each contributing in his sphere of action to the well-being of the community in which he resides and to the advancement of its normal and legitimate growth. Among this number was George Binhack, one of the leading farmers and stock raisers of Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana.

George Binhack, though not a native of the country in which he now lives and in which he has had a very prosperous and successful career, is nevertheless one of the most loyal citizens of his adopted country, and has for many years been numbered among the respected and influential citizens of his locality. He was born in Muddersdorf, Bohemia, Austria, on August 1, 1855, the son of Martin and Anna (Moller) Binhack, both of whom were also natives of the same place. The father was a tanner by trade, having a tan-yard in his home town, and he and his wife spent their entire lives there. They were the parents of eight children: Julia, the wife of Andrew Link, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Annie, deceased, who was the wife of John Huntzwurtz, of Ludington, Michigan; Frank, a farmer at home; Joseph, who died in his native land; George, the immediate subject of this sketch; Austin, a clothing salesman in Chicago, Illinois; Martin, a carpenter living in Washington, and John, who is a tailor in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

George Binhack attended the schools of his native country and received a good practical education. During his young manhood he learned the harness-making trade, at which he was employed until 1875, when he came to America. He located first at Fort Branch, Indiana, where he was employed in D. T. Wallace's flour mill. He remained in Fort Branch until about 1887, when he went to Barton township, where for two and one-half years he engaged in farming. In 1890 he came to King's Station, Patoka township, where for seventeen years he worked for the R. P. Moore Company as

engineer. He bought ten acres of land, to the cultivation of which he devoted himself so earnestly and with such good judgment that he was later enabled to buy forty-seven acres of the Griffith place in Patoka township after his retirement from the mill in 1907. During the past four years he has also farmed the Witherspoon place at King's Station. He has demonstrated agricultural ability of a high order and is achieving a splendid success at this calling. In addition to the raising of all crops common to this section of the state, he also gives some attention to live stock, raising cattle, horses, mules and hogs, and is likewise successful in this line of work. Coming to America a mere boy, he had practically nothing except a large stock of ambition and industry and, with no influential friends to assist him, he has persisted in his earnest endeavors and has demonstrated what a young man of right principles can accomplish through hard work and good management.

In August, 1885, Mr. Binhack was married to Hester Frendenburg, a daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth (Fulling) Fredenburg, both natives of Germany, who, on coming to America, located at Fort Branch, following farming until the end of his life. He and his wife are both now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Binhack have been born eleven children, namely: Albert and Oscar (deceased), Gertrude, George Leslie, Russell, Orville, Annie, Raymond, Grace, Elizabeth and Pauline.

Politically, Mr. Binhack has given his support to the Democratic party, and religiously his wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church which he also attends, being connected with Cunningham chapel at King's Station. Mr. Binhack is a man of splendid personal character and because of his straight life and genuine worth he has long enjoyed the good will and the confidence of his neighbors.

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#### SAMUEL A. STEWART.

The gentleman to a brief review of whose life the reader's attention is herewith directed is among the foremost business men of Gibson and it has been his enterprise and progressive methods that contributed in a material way to the industrial and commercial advancement of the community. Possessing splendid executive and business ability, he has been successful in a material way, and because of his sterling qualities he is numbered among the representative men of the city in which he lives.

Samuel A. Stewart is the scion of one of the pioneer families of Gibson



MR. AND MRS. SAMUEL A. STEWART.



county whose ancestors trace their descent in direct line to sterling Scotland ancestors. These progenitors, upon emigrating from the land of hills and heather to America, first settled in Virginia sometime prior to the Revolutionary war, in which some of them took an active part. Thomas Stewart was born near Lynchburg, Virginia, on April 9, 1768, and married Tirzah Morrison on January 30, 1794, who was born in that same locality. To that union were born three children, William, Nancy and Samuel A. William and his brother came to Gibson county, Indiana, in 1818, settling first in Patoka and from there moved north to the lead mines at Galena, Illinois, where the former died. Nancy became the wife of a Mr. Lacky, with whom she moved to Kentucky.

Samuel Ayers Stewart, who was born in Virginia on December 10, 1797, came to Indiana in 1818 and settled in Gibson county because of his acquaintance with former neighbors who had come here from Virginia. He first engaged in the milling business and in the winter months he taught school, being one of the first teachers in this section of the state. Soon after coming here he entered a tract of government land and from then on engaged in farming, which remained his principle occupation until his death, which occurred on May 24, 1849, at the age of fifty-two years. During his residence in this county he was active in all matters pertaining to the locality and because of his activity, industry and good business management he succeeded in accumulating a competency and thereby bringing comfort and happiness for his family. He was of a religious temperament and early in life become affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church. He soon felt called to preach the gospel and in 1830 he was licensed to preach and was so successful in his efforts that on October 5, 1834, he was ordained by Deacon Roberts at Mt. Carmel, and on October 10, 1847, he was regularly ordained elder by Bishop Waugh, at the conference which met in Evansville. Politically, Mr. Stewart was quiet and unostentatious, while holding firmly to his convictions on the great questions of the day. Strongly opposed to slavery, he left his native state in order to escape its baneful influences. During his active life he held a number of offices of honor and trust, among which was that of associate judge, to which office he was elected in 1837. In 1845 he was appointed by Governor Whitcomb probate judge to fill out the unexpired term of Judge French, and in August of that year he was elected to that position for the full term. In 1839 he was collector of county taxes, all of which positions he filled with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of his fellow citizens.

On January 29, 1824, Samuel Ayers Stewart was married to Lucinda Howe, who was the daughter of Robert Howe, and who was born in Kentucky in March, 1806, her death occurring on April 5, 1874. To this union were born eleven children: Thomas, the eldest and father of the subject of this sketch, born in Gibson county, Indiana, July 29, 1828, and died April 15, 1902. Here he was reared and received a limited education in the subscription schools of the time. On September 29, 1853, he married Susan L., the daughter of James and Elizabeth (Payen) Huddleson. She was born in Gibson county on November 30, 1830, and she lived her entire life in this community, dying on February 13, 1914, aged eighty-three years. Her parents emigrated from Kentucky to this state while it was yet a territory. Her maternal grandfather was a soldier under Gen. William Henry Harrison during the Indian wars. To Thomas and Susan Stewart were born six children, who, in order of birth, are named as follows: Samuel A., who is the subject of this sketch; Clara E., wife of M. S. Knaub; Florence A., now deceased, who was the wife of J. C. Danks; James W., Minnie (deceased) and John H.

Samuel A. Stewart was born in Patoka, Gibson county, Indiana, on July 17, 1854, and was there reared, receiving a common school education. After completing the public school course he entered a commercial college at Evansville, Indiana, where he received his diploma August 14, 1874. After his graduation he engaged in a business partnership with his father, which lasted until 1879, when the firm of Stewart & Danks was formed and which became one of the most important and successful enterprises of this locality. On the death of J. T. Lamb, in September, 1868, Mr. Stewart was appointed postmaster of Patoka, and served seven years to the entire satisfaction of the patrons of the office. For a number of years he has been successfully engaged in the real estate, insurance and loan business and because of his enterprising business interests, strict integrity and his congenial disposition, he has not only won the friendship of all with whom he has come in contact, but his full share of local patronage in his line. In 1894 Mr. Stewart was elected county clerk after an unusually hard fight made against him, against which he won out by a creditable plurality. So satisfactory was his discharge of official duties that he was re-nominated by acclamation and was again elected, this time leading the county ticket.

Politically, Mr. Stewart has been a life-long supporter of the Republican party, and has been active in its counsels and served as chairman of the Republican central committee for 1900 and 1902 and successfully conducted the campaign for both years. He was secretary of the county central committee



for 1896 and in other ways through the years he has exerted a large influence in the organization of this character. Fraternally, he is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons and has taken the degrees of the Scottish Rite up to and including the thirty-second, holding his membership in the consistory at Indianapolis. It is worthy of note that his paternal grandfather, Samuel A. Stewart, was a member of Liberty Lodge No. 95, Free and Accepted Masons, at Liberty, Virginia, and demitted from same in 1820 to identify himself with the lodge at Princeton. Religiously, Mr. and Mrs. Stewart are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

On December 26, 1877, Samuel A. Stewart married Mary E. Danks, daughter of Thomas C. and Mary D. Danks, natives of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and to this union have been born the following children: Edith D., wife of O. O. Watson, a merchant at Princeton; Charles H., who for twelve years was deputy postmaster at Princeton, but is now traveling for Swift & Company, with headquarters at Columbus, Indiana; Clara E. is assistant to her father; Mary E., who is at home, has just graduated from the public schools; Samuel Ayers, Jr., is a student at Purdue University. Mr. Stewart is a splendid example of the virile, progressive, self-made man, who believes in doing well what is worth doing at all, a man of keen discernment, sound judgment, strong minded and a follower of the principles embodied in the Golden Rule regarding his relations to his fellow-men. Therefore, he enjoys to the utmost their confidence and good will. He has been unselfish in his attitude toward public affairs, giving his support at all times to any movement which has had as its object the advancement of the public welfare, materially, morally or educationally. Therefore he is entitled to the enviable position which he holds in general public affairs.

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### EZEKIEL T. HOPKINS.

To write the personal record of men who raised themselves from humble circumstances to positions of responsibility and trust in a community is no ordinary pleasure. Self-made men, men who have achieved success by reason of their personal qualities and left the impress of their individuality upon the business growth of their place of residence and affect for good such institutions as are embraced in the sphere of their usefulness, unwittingly, perhaps, built monuments more enduring than marble obelisk or granite shaft.

Of such we have the unquestionable right to say belongs the gentleman whose name appears above.

Ezekiel T. Hopkins was born on October 14, 1846, near Fort Branch, Gibson county, Indiana, the son of Hiram A. and Martha J. (Ralston) Hopkins. The father was born in Bourbon county, Kentucky, in 1815, and the mother in Princeton, Indiana, in 1820. Hiram A. Hopkins was brought by his parents to Indiana in 1818 at the age of three years. These parents, Ezekiel and Polly (Benson) Hopkins, were natives of Kentucky, and on coming to Indiana located between Owensville and Cynthiana, where the father located a tract of land and also operated a mill and a distillery. He located about five miles south of Princeton, Indiana, on the state road, where he spent the remainder of his years, his death occurring in 1853. He was widely known and a man of considerable prominence in this community. His wife died in Illinois. To them were born the following children: Willis, Hiram, James, Newton and Minerva. Hiram A. Hopkins lived on the home place until his marriage in 1827, receiving his education in the common schools. He engaged in school teaching in young manhood, but eventually located about one and one-half miles southeast of Fort Branch, on the state road, where he obtained a tract of government land, to the operation of which he devoted his attention during the remainder of his active life, his death occurring in 1874. He was survived many years by his widow, who died in Princeton in 1910, at the age of seventy-eight years. Hiram A. Hopkins was an old-line Whig in his original political views, but upon the organization of the Republican party he allied himself with that party. He was constable at one time and took an active interest in political affairs. Religiously, he was a member of the General Baptist church and his wife of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. They were the parents of twelve children, of whom eleven grew to maturity. They are, Andrew R., now deceased, was a resident of Vincennes, Indiana; Mary A., of Fort Branch, is the widow of Silas M. Holcomb; Helen M. is the widow of John King and resides in Princeton, Indiana; Cornelia is the wife of John F. Kenneth, of Fort Branch; Ezekiel T., the immediate subject of this sketch; Alice was the wife of Thomas D. Crumbaugh and both are now deceased; Isabella, who is now deceased, was the wife of William L. West, who is now living in Kansas; Elizabeth is the wife of Dr. A. C. Smith, of Indianapolis; Joseph N., deceased, was a practicing physician in Liberty, White county, Illinois. He was educated in the public schools of Keokuk, Iowa, where he graduated. The eleventh child was a daughter, who died in infancy, and Ethel, wife of John W. Douglas, of Chicago.

Ezekiel T. Hopkins attended the local schools of his neighborhood and later went to the high school at Owensville. He lived with his parents at home until twenty-five years old, when, after his marriage, he located at Cynthiana, Indiana, where he conducted farming operations and also practiced veterinary surgery, in which he became an expert. Later, he located at Fort Branch for five years and then, in 1880, took up active farming at King's Station, where he has since lived. He is the owner of sixty-one acres of well-cultivated land, and during his active operation of this place, its well-kept appearance testified to the owner's good judgment and excellent taste, the attractive residence, the well-arranged barns and the highly-cultivated fields giving evidence of his progressive ideas and industrious habits. During the past seven years Mr. Hopkins has been retired from active labor, though he still maintains supervision over his farm. For several years Mr. Hopkins was also engaged in the grain business at King's Station, but his elevator burned in 1900, since which time he has not been engaged in that business.

On May 12, 1872, Mr. Hopkins married Sarah E. Cunningham, of King's Station, Gibson county, Indiana, the daughter of Joseph and Mary (Arbutnot) Cunningham, the father a native of Hazelton, Indiana, and the mother of Princeton. They are both now deceased. Mrs. Hopkins died on January 26, 1905. She was one of six children, the others being John A., who was a soldier in the Civil war, in which conflict he gave up his life in defense of his country; Nancy J., deceased; George A., a leading lawyer in Evansville, Indiana; Alice E., the wife of Samuel Slater, of King's Station, Indiana, and Laura, the wife of John Gambrel, of Princeton. To Mr. and Mrs. Hopkins were born five children, namely: George A., who conducts a wholesale and retail house furnishing store at Carthage, Illinois, and who married Cordelia Kindle; P. C., who has for the past eighteen years been successfully engaged in the practice of law in Evansville; Mary R. is the wife of Roger Cleveland, a farmer one and one-half miles east of King's Station; Alice I., who is at home, has been a teacher in the Princeton public schools for the past six years; Theodore A. is a druggist at Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Being very deeply interested in educational affairs, Mr. Hopkins has seen to it that all of his children have received good educations and have been reared to respectable positions in life.

Politically, Mr. Hopkins has been a life-long Republican up to the last campaign, when he allied himself with the Progressive party, in whose support he is enthusiastic. He served as deputy assessor of Patoka township for seven years. Religiously, he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at King's Station, to the support of which he contributes liberally of

his time and substance. Mrs. Hopkins, who also was a member of that church for several years, was a school teacher prior to her marriage. Mr. Hopkins is the possessor of a large and well-selected library, being a close and constant reader and a student of the current questions of the day, and is considered a well-informed man, who is able to intelligently discuss all questions. In many respects, Mr. Hopkins has labored for the material progress of the town and township, advocating laudable measures for the general good and sparing no reasonable efforts to advance the welfare of the community. His life has been characterized by integrity and usefulness and such has been his association with business and civic affairs that it is altogether proper that his career be perpetuated in this publication.

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#### REUBEN PHILLIPS.

Among the farmers of Gibson county, Indiana, who have to their credit many long years spent in industriously and intelligently tilling the soil, is Reuben Phillips, of Patoka township. He comes of a good family, one that has always been strong for right living and industrious habits, for morality and for all that contributes to the welfare of the commonwealth. Such people are welcomed in any community, for they are empire builders and as such have pushed the frontier of civilization ever westward and onward, leaving the green wide-reaching wilderness and the far-stretching plains populous with contented people and beautiful with green fields; they have constituted that sterling horde which moved the great Bishop Whipple to write the memorable line, "Westward the course of empire takes its way."

Reuben Phillips was born February 3, 1841, in Perry county, Pennsylvania, the son of Peter and Mary (Kessler) Phillips, he of Berks county, Pennsylvania, and she of Perry county, that state. The father was a farmer and in 1853 came to Gibson county, where he located. Moved with patriotism, he enlisted in August, 1861, in the First Indiana Cavalry. His command led him through Missouri and Arkansas and he died in service in the fall of 1864, having been injured by the falling of his horse on July 4th of the same year. The wife went back to Pennsylvania in 1856 and died there in 1898. They were the parents of a family of seven children, namely: Frank, the eldest, was a farmer in Gibson county, Indiana, but died in 1855. The second child was Reuben, subject of this sketch; Elizabeth, died unmarried, at Patoka, Indiana, in 1864; Kate, who became the wife of John Thorne and re-

sides in Pennsylvania; James, deceased; Sarah died in Patoka, Indiana, and Mary, living in Pennsylvania. The parents were consistent members of the Lutheran church and reared their family in that faith.

Reuben Phillips, who was but a lad when his parents came to Gibson county in 1853, had but limited opportunity for schooling in the rural districts of that day. On May 29, 1861, he enlisted in Company C, Seventeenth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, at Princeton, and was first ordered to Indianapolis. Later he was sent to Parkersburg, West Virginia, on into Maryland, back into West Virginia, to Louisville, Kentucky, and made all the long marches under General Thomas in Tennessee and Georgia. He was at Macon, Georgia, at the close of the war.

After receiving his discharge in 1865 Mr. Phillips returned to Gibson county, where, on March 22, 1867, he was united in marriage to Mary Stott, who was born in Ireland, a daughter of William and Margaret (Steele) Stott. Her parents were married in Ireland and emigrated to Canada in 1847, locating near the city of Toronto, where her father engaged in farming. In 1858 the family moved to Gibson county, where Dr. John Stott, a brother, was residing in Princeton. Doctor Stott had been residing here since an early day and had often written his brother to come to Gibson county to assist him in caring for his farm property, which he continued to do until his death. His wife also died in Gibson county. They were members of the Reform Presbyterian church and were the parents of twelve children, three of whom are now living. The eldest was Mary, wife of the subject of this sketch; Thomas John, deceased; William Steele, deceased; Joseph, living in Gibson county; Robert, deceased; Frank, a farmer in Gibson county; James and Ann, deceased, and four others who died in infancy.

After his marriage, Reuben Phillips farmed for nine years for Robert Mitchell, and he then farmed at Wheeling for eleven years, since which time he has confined his labors to agricultural work in Patoka township. He is a man who has always worked very hard and is wonderfully active and well preserved for his years. Reuben Phillips and wife are the parents of four children: William J., who remains at home unmarried and who deals in sand, grain and feed in Princeton; David, in the shoe business at Houston, Texas; Helen J., wife of O. A. Downey, a merchant at Francisco, Indiana, and Edith, wife of Joseph H. Laib, a promoter and insurance man of Princeton. There were also two other children who died in infancy.

Mr. Phillips is a member of the honored Grand Army of the Republic, Post No. 28, at Princeton, and his religious affiliation is with the Reformed

Presbyterian church. Mr. Phillips has long had the best interests of this locality at heart and has sought to advance them in whatever way possible. His life has been characterized by untiring energy, uncompromising fidelity and an earnest desire to advance himself in his chosen line of work. He is held in high esteem by all who know him as a citizen of the best type, an honest and upright man.

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### SAMUEL F. BRASELTON.

Holding distinctive prestige among the enterprising citizens of Gibson county, Indiana, is Samuel F. Braselton, whose record, here briefly outlined, is that of a self-made man who, by the exercise of the talents with which nature endowed him, rose to the position he now occupies as one of the influential and well-to-do men of the city honored by his residence. He is a creditable representative of one of the old and highly esteemed pioneer families of this locality and possesses many of the admirable qualities and characteristics of his sturdy Kentucky ancestors, who migrated to Indiana in a very early day and figured in the history of this section of the state.

Samuel F. Braselton, enterprising farmer and successful business man, efficient public official and upright citizen, was born in Wayne county, Illinois, on October 22, 1844, and is the son of John and Nancy (Colvin) Braselton. The subject's father was born at Elizabethtown, Kentucky, March 8, 1808, and his wife was born on June 17, 1814, at the Robb settlement in New Harmony, Indiana. John Braselton was a wagon-maker during his earlier life, but later followed farming. To him and his wife were born nine children, of whom all are living but two. Two were members of Company F, Thirty-third Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil war, one, James, dying at Evansville, Indiana, and George H. dying in Kentucky. The subject's father came with his parents in 1808 to Gibson county, settling near where the Southern railroad shops are now located, and here the grandfather, John Braselton, kept a tavern or half-way house, as they were then known. The subject's father spent the remainder of his days in Gibson county, his death occurring on September 3, 1887. His wife passed away the same year, her death occurring on the 3d day of February. Politically, John Braselton was first a Whig and after the formation of the Republican party he allied himself with that organization, took a deep interest in public affairs, espe-



SAMUEL F. BRASELTON.





cially as relating to education, and as a school director he rendered efficient service to his community.

Samuel F. Braselton was reared under the parental roof, securing his education in the common schools of the county. As soon as large enough he gave his assistance to his father in the operation of the home farm and followed this vocation until the breaking out of the war of the Rebellion, when, on December 16, 1863, he enlisted in Company F, One Hundred and Twentieth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, which command was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland, and with this command he took part in all the battles, marches and skirmishes incident to the historic Atlanta campaign. Mr. Braselton was slightly wounded at Kingston, North Carolina. From there he was sent to Goldsboro, North Carolina, and three days later met Sherman's army, with which, after a thirty-day rest, he moved to Raleigh, North Carolina. At the time of the surrender Mr. Braselton was detailed with about thirty others, and sent to Durham station at the time of the surrender of Johnson to Sherman, and he remained in the active service until 1866, his regiment being assigned to the gathering and shipping of arms and army supplies for the government. After being mustered out at Raleigh, North Carolina, Mr. Braselton returned to Indianapolis, Indiana, and soon afterwards returned to Gibson county. Here he followed agricultural pursuits until February, 1875, when, moving to Princeton, he engaged in the tin and stove business. Two years later he disposed of this business and during the following two years was engaged as clerk in a store. Mr. Braselton then engaged in the monument manufacturing business, to which, during the following twenty-seven years, he gave his undivided attention and in which he met with a splendid and well-merited success. In November, 1908, Mr. Braselton was elected trustee of Patoka township and is the present incumbent of this office, his term not expiring until 1915, because of recent legislative enactment. He has demonstrated ability of a high order in his own affairs, and in the discharge of his official duties he is applying the same sound principles as he would to his own affairs. He has been successful in life and he and his wife are the owners of one hundred and fifty acres of good farming land and nine pieces of property in Princeton.

Politically, Mr. Braselton has been a life-long Republican and active in the support of this party. He served at one time as councilman from the first ward and has always been numbered among the foremost citizens of the community. Religiously, he is a member of the Presbyterian church, while his

fraternal relations are with the Grand Army of the Republic, having served as quartermaster for the Princeton post for twelve years.

On October 10, 1878, Samuel F. Braselton was married to Clara Kurtz, the daughter of William and Indiana (Arbuthnot) Kurtz, and to this union have been born three children, namely: Edgar K., a graduate of Purdue University, is the present representative of the Lilly Drug Company of Indianapolis at Washington, D. C.; Edith, who is a teacher in the city schools of Princeton, was a student in Indiana and Chicago Universities; Daisey Dean, who took a kindergarten course in Indianapolis, and is a teacher in the city schools. Both daughters are at home. The splendid success which has crowned Mr. Braselton's efforts has been directly traceable to the salient points in his character, for he started in life at the bottom of the ladder, which he mounted unaided. He comes of a splendid American family, one that has always been strong for right living and industrious habits, for education and morality, for loyalty to the national government and for all that contributes to the welfare of the community, and because of his success in life and his high personal character he is clearly entitled to specific mention in the annals of his county.

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### JAMES W. CUNNINGHAM.

The student interested in the history of Gibson county does not have to carry his investigations far into its annals before learning that James W. Cunningham has long been one of its most active and leading citizens in its agricultural stock-raising interests and that his labors have been a potent force in making this a rich agricultural region, for through several decades he has carried on general farming, gradually improving his valuable place, and while he has prospered in this, he has also found time and ample opportunity to assist in the material and civic development of the county.

James W. Cunningham, of Wabash township, this county, was born October 20, 1841, near Hazelton, and is the son of Stewart and Georgia Ann (Robb) Cunningham. His mother was a sister of David and Moses Robb, and was born and reared south of Hazelton, her parents having been among the early pioneers of that section. She is now living at the advanced age of ninety-six years. Stewart Cunningham was born in 1817, and was reared twelve miles north of Mt. Carmel, Illinois, and was a son of Buck Cunningham, who was of Scotch-Irish parentage. When Stewart Cunnig-

ham was a small child, his mother died and his father remarried. At the age of fifteen the boy ran away from home, coatless and barefooted, came across the river to Mt. Carmel and worked a few days with an old settler by the name of Howe, helping him break the first ground between Gordon Hill and Patoka. Here he remained for the following winter, killing many a deer on the Gordon Hills when that part of the country was all wilderness. The last deer he killed was in Knox county, about 1873. After leaving Mr. Howe he went to the home of Smith Miller, about five miles south of Patoka, at what is now known as Miller's Station. Here he remained until he grew to maturity and here he married Georgia Ann Robb, who was a sister of Smith Miller's wife. He then engaged in farming on the farm where his widow now lives, three miles south of Hazleton, northeast of the Miller home. His wife had fallen heir to three hundred dollars, and with this money they bought the farm where she still resides, a period of over seventy years' residence in one place. Here Stewart Cunningham spent his life, his death occurring in 1900, at the age of eighty-three years. To Stewart Cunningham and his wife were born three children, James W., the immediate subject of this sketch; B. F. Cunningham, of Patoka, and Lydia, who first married Robert Thompson, and after his death married Uriah Williams, and they live one and one-half miles north of Patoka.

James W. Cunningham grew up on the paternal homestead and early learned the habits of industry and self-reliance. He secured his education in the district schools of his home neighborhood, and upon attaining mature years he wisely chose agriculture for his vocation and for one year he rented his father's farm, and by energy and hard, persistent effort he cleared six hundred dollars, after which he went west during the years of the Civil war, and accompanied the first white train that ever went across Bridges and Bozeman's route through the Big Horn mountains to Virginia City, Montana. From there he went to the gold mines and engaged in mining, in which he was very successful, but, like his fellow workers in that line, he spent his money almost as fast as he earned it. He remained in the mining regions for about eighteen months, at the expiration of which time he returned down the Yellowstone river in a boat, of which he was pilot. The trip was a long and perilous one, and many things of interest could be narrated of this journey, as well as of the lawlessness of the mining country in that early day. Mr. Cunningham worked three months in a government saw-mill at Omaha, Nebraska, getting out timbers for the Union Pacific railroad, then in process of construction. Work was plentiful and good help hard to secure in those early days of railroad building and Mr. Cunningham being a

steady, practical, industrious worker, his services were in demand, he being very successful at whatever work he undertook, although he had but little opportunity for education in his boyhood days. At the expiration of his services with the railroad company he returned to the old home in Gibson county, Indiana, and again resumed farming, and after the first year here he, in partnership with Dan Miller, bought a threshing machine outfit, with which he was very successful, paying for the machine the first year, with a profit of three hundred dollars. Mr. Cunningham then bought out Mr. Miller's interest in the machine and the next year cleared six hundred dollars. He continued in this business for two years with gratifying returns for his labor and investment, at the same time operating a farm. The first year after his return from the West, he and Mr. Miller took a flat boat loaded with corn down the river and conducted a coasting trip from Eggs Point, selling corn to farmers at one dollar per bushel. This was a very satisfactory and successful trip and resulted in much profit to Mr. Cunningham, as he had raised about three thousand bushels of corn himself, and he and his partner bought more corn at forty cents per bushel, thus realizing a handsome profit from the enterprise. A few years later he purchased an interest in a one-hundred-and-nineteen-ton steamboat on the river from Petersburg to Hazleton, and later his partner became financially embarrassed and Mr. Cunningham became the sole owner of the boat. The next year or two he operated this boat on the river and then traded it to Messrs. Blair and Batson for one hundred and twenty acres of land in Wabash township below the head of the big bayou. The following year he moved there and lived there for the next fifteen or twenty years, at the expiration of which period he rented the farm and moved to Stewartsville, where he lived for ten years. Here he bought a brick building and later sold it for fifteen hundred dollars, and while he owned this building, rented it for business purposes and was himself in business for two years. Ten years later he sold out his farm and other interests, and purchased a home and three lots at Griffin, for one thousand dollars, where he lived for four years, at the end of which time he sold this for fifteen hundred dollars, again realizing handsomely on his investment. About six years ago he moved to Crowleyville, where he has since resided. He is the owner of about twenty houses in this place, a grain elevator and is also the owner of one hundred and one acres of land near Crowleyville and two hundred and five acres of land in Wabash township, as well as twenty-nine acres in Knox county, this state, making a total of three hundred and thirty-five acres of land. Since living at Crowleyville he operated a flat boat on the river, carrying three thousand bushels of corn down the river from Vicksburg

to Natchez, selling the corn at various points on the river. In young manhood he went out for a trip down the river for his father on a flat boat of corn in company with David Fisher, Edwin Phillips, James Miller and David Lewis, and in all these operations he met with eminent success, and is today one of the solid and substantial citizens of his part of the county.

In 1870 Mr. Cunningham was united in marriage to Nancy Jane Edmondson, who was the daughter of William Edmondson, her birth occurring about fifteen miles west of Mount Carmel, Illinois. She was married prior to her union to Mr. Cunningham, but lost her husband by death soon after marriage, and their only child died when six months of age. To Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham have been born two children, Margaret, wife of Richard Harrison, of Owensville, and they have one daughter, Della; Della, wife of Cord McReynolds, lives at Kansas City, Missouri, where Mr. McReynolds is yardmaster on a railroad.

Politically, Mr. Cunningham has been affiliated with the Democratic party all his life, and while taking an active interest in all public questions and honestly discharging his duties as a citizen in the civic life of his community, yet he has never been a seeker for public office, his business affairs and home life demanding his entire time and attention.

With few opportunities except what his own efforts were capable of mastering and with many discouragements to overcome, Mr. Cunningham has made an exceptional success in life and in his mature years has the gratification of knowing that the community in which he resides has been benefited by his presence and counsel. He has become well and most favorably known throughout his locality for his loyalty to truth, his uprightness in business, his public spirit and friendly disposition. He and his wife are among the most influential and popular citizens of their community, being abreast of the times in every way and always willing to give their time and substance, if need be, to further any movement looking toward the betterment of the locality where they reside, religiously, socially or educationally.

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#### RICHEY SUMNERS.

Gibson county was not lacking in loyalty during the dark days of the Rebellion, when the ship of state was almost stranded on the rocks of disunion, but contributed her full quota of brave and valiant men to assist in preserving the integrity of the government, prominent among whom was the well known gentleman and enterprising citizen whose name appears at the

head of this review. Loyal to his country in its hour of peril and extremity, as was demonstrated on many bloody battle fields, he has ever been its staunch supporter in times of peace, and today there are few old soldiers of the county as widely and favorably known and none that can boast of a more honorable record. The ranks of the noble organization to which he belonged in the days of his youth are fast being decimated by the one invincible foe, and it is fitting that in every publication of the nature of this volume special tribute be paid to those who served during the greatest civil war known to history.

Richey Sumners, a retired farmer of Gibson county, was born January 28, 1843, in this county. He was a son of Thomas and Julia (Montgomery) Sumners. The father was born in Tennessee and came to this county in 1819, at the age of eight, with his parents, Joseph and Mary (Richey) Sumners. The family settled about one and one-half miles southeast of Owensville, entering government land. They made the trip to this state in covered wagons, in true pioneer style, coming from along Duck river, between Murfreesboro and Franklin, Tennessee. After arriving here, they selected the land which they finally entered because it had a fine spring on it. Here they cleared a little land, hunted, fished and did but little farming. The present generation little understands the disadvantages under which our forefathers had to labor. Joseph Sumners and his wife both died about seven years after coming to this state, when their son, Thomas, was about fifteen years old. Upon the death of his parents, Thomas Sumners was bound out to Carlos Wilson, a tanner, and remained in his employ until he was twenty-one years of age. He continued in the employ of Mr. Wilson for five years after reaching his majority and then launched out into the tanning business for himself. He built a tannery one-half mile north of Owensville and continued its operation for eighteen years, when he bought a farm, on which the subject of this sketch was born. He died in 1863. The mother of the subject of this sketch was born about four miles northwest of Owensville, in 1819, the daughter of Judge Thomas Montgomery and Katherine (Teel) Montgomery. Her father was judge of the circuit court at that time in Princeton, Indiana. She lived until 1860, when her death occurred on the home farm, about three years previous to her husband's death.

Richey Sumners was one of eleven children, seven of whom grew to maturity, but only two are now living, the subject of this sketch and his sister, Mrs. Anna Bell Baugh, of San Jose, California. When the Civil war began Mr. Sumners was but seventeen years of age, but, fired by the disloyal actions of the Southern states, his patriotism was stirred to action and he enlisted as a private in Company H, Seventeenth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry,

which command was assigned to service in the Army of the Cumberland and rendered valiant and faithful service in the campaign throughout Tennessee and Georgia. After reaching Atlanta in the summer of 1864, his corps was placed in the Army of the West, under Gen. George H. Thomas. He was then transferred back to Nashville, and from thence his division was sent into Mississippi and Alabama, and he spent the winter of 1864-65 in southern Alabama and Georgia. When the news of Lee's surrender was flashed across the country he was in Georgia. He had served for over three years, had been in some of the bloodiest conflicts of the war, had never shirked his duty in any particular and had come through all unscathed. Certainly he was more fortunate than thousands and thousands of his fellow soldiers. He was mustered out August 20, 1865.

Upon the expiration of his military service, Mr. Summers returned to Owensville, where he engaged in farming for three years, but, an opportunity presenting itself to purchase a stock of merchandise in Owensville, he went to that town and engaged in the mercantile business for three years. Seeing a better opportunity for financial investment in the lumber business, he sold his interests in the mercantile business and started a lumber establishment which he conducted successfully for twenty-five years, when he retired from active participation in business affairs. He was one of the original stockholders in the Owensville Banking Company and was for a number of years the president of the company. He continued in this capacity until three years ago, when he resigned.

Mr. Summers was married in 1875 to Roxana Jaques, the daughter of William and Mary (Pollard) Jaques. His wife's great-grandfather settled near Poseyville, Posey county, this state, where he entered a large tract of government land. In fact, at his death he had one section for each child. Mr. and Mrs. Richey Summers are the parents of three children, two of whom are still living, Iva, the wife of Burr Stunkel, of Owensville, and the mother of four children, Dorothy, Mary, Charles and Martha; Richey, the only son, is still living under the parental roof.

Mr. Summers, in his three score and ten years of continuous residence in this county, has endeared himself to a wide circle of friends. He is a plain, unassuming man, able and successful in all of his business affairs. He has contributed to all worthy objects which have for their purpose the betterment of the community in which he has spent his whole career. His success has been attained by his steady persistence, sterling integrity and excellent judgment.



## JOHN Q. A. GOODMAN.

The true measure of individual success is determined by what one has accomplished. An enumeration of those men who have succeeded in their special vocations in Gibson county, and at the same time are impressing their personalities on the community, men who are conferring honor on the locality in which they reside, would be incomplete were there failure to make specific mention of the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch, for he is an important factor in the professional life of his community. The success which has come to him has been the direct result of the salient points in his character and the sincere interest which he takes in all matters pertaining to the public good has won for him the high regard in which he is held by all who know him.

John Q. A. Goodman was born on a farm in Crawford county, Illinois, August 12, 1869, the son of Henry and Caroline A. (Legg) Goodman. The father was a native of Ohio, born in the city of Cleveland on May 11, 1836. The mother was born and raised in Crawford county, Illinois, her birth occurring November 1, 1842. Previous to the birth of the subject of this sketch the father had settled on the farm in Crawford county, Illinois, where he passed the remainder of his life. He died March 2, 1887. The mother continued to make her home in her native county, and passed away April 5, 1911. To the union of Henry and Caroline A. (Legg) Goodman were born four children, Marcus T., Amos N., John Q. A. and William C. Henry Goodman was a consistent member of the Presbyterian church, serving as an elder for a number of years. In the tenets of this faith he reared his family, ever setting before them the example of his own sincere life, his honesty and integrity in all matters.

John Q. A. Goodman received his early education in the schools of Crawford county, Illinois. He passed his early life on the farm and the excellent physique he today possesses, together with a clear and well-balanced mind, is doubtless in a great measure due to the wholesomeness of those early rural duties. But important as agricultural pursuits are, Mr. Goodman was not satisfied, for he had within him the desire for a broader sphere of life, and in 1896 he took up the study of law. He brought to the study of his chosen profession a boundless and keen enthusiasm and succeeded so well that on January 5, 1898, he was admitted to the bar at Washington, Indiana. He had not, however, succeeded in finding a location suitable to his taste and,





JOHN Q. A. GOODMAN.



with the desire of permanently locating, he came to Princeton on May 28, 1898, where he has since made his home and has inseparably identified himself with the best interests of the community. He was admitted to practice in the United States circuit court at East St. Louis, Illinois, on November 7, 1906.

Mr. Goodman was married on April 20, 1902, to Flora E. Barcroft, of Lawrence county, Illinois, the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Fowler) Barcroft. Mr. and Mrs. Goodman have one child, John Leland, born February 15, 1908.

Mr. Goodman had always identified himself with the Republican party, taking an active interest in its affairs, and when the New Progressive party sprang into existence he refused to accept its principles and took still more active interest in behalf of the old-school Republicans. His commanding figure is a familiar sight at political gatherings, and his style of oratory, clear and shrewd in its reasoning, concise and effective in delivery, has made him a favorite speaker at all campaign gatherings.

Fraternally, Mr. Goodman has confined his connection to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. His religious membership, together with that of his wife, is with the First Presbyterian church of Princeton, in the affairs of which he takes a deep interest and to which he contributes generously of his time and means.

Mr. Goodman has the welfare of the community at heart and at all times can be counted on to give his ardent support to every movement having for its object the welfare of those about him. A man of sterling qualities, his honesty, his upright principles and genial disposition have won for him numerous friends throughout the community in which he lives.

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### JAMES V. AND CHARLES N. EMERSON.

There is nothing which stimulates a man to deeds of worth and a life of uprightness and rectitude more than the recollection of the strength of character and examples of right living which have been shown by his forbears. In this respect Mr. Emerson is fortunate beyond the majority of men in being descended from a line of men who have been men of strength and influence, doing their duty well, whether in the peaceful pursuits of ordinary life or in positions of public life and public trust. A heritage of such a memory of the

lives of one's forefathers is of more value than a heritage of material wealth. In the business affairs of Owensville, the subject of this sketch occupies a position of importance and among those who are today conserving the commercial and industrial prosperity of this community none occupy a higher standing among their associates than he whose name appears at the head of this review.

Charles N. Emerson, the son of James V. and Susan J. (Williams) Emerson, was born January 7, 1878, near Owensville, Gibson county, Indiana. James V. Emerson was born February 27, 1851, the son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Duncan) Emerson. Thomas Emerson was born near Cynthiana, in the southern part of Gibson county, the son of Reuben Emerson, who came from Kentucky in 1811, and settled on the farm where Thomas was born. Reuben had a brother, Jesse, who settled near where the subject was born, in 1809. Reuben entered his land from the government near the south line of Montgomery township in this county, and it was on this farm that Thomas was born. Elizabeth, the wife of Thomas, was born in Owensville, the daughter of Greenbury and Sarah (Roberts) Duncan. The Duncans came to the county in an early day, and the Roberts came from Carolina about the time the county was organized. Thomas Emerson followed the occupation of a farmer until old age, and after acquiring a comfortable competence, he moved to Owensville in the latter eighties, where he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives.

James V. Emerson grew up on the farm where he was born, securing his education in the district schools, and at the same time assisting his father in the duties of the farm life, thus early acquiring those habits of industry and perseverance which have characterized him throughout his successful career. In February, 1877, he was united in marriage to Susan J. Williams, the daughter of Simon and Lavina (Sharer) Williams, who are represented in the sketch of Dr. J. R. Williams, elsewhere in this volume. James Emerson and his wife went to housekeeping on a farm owned by Mr. Emerson and continued to reside there until 1882, at which time they moved to Owensville. In the following year he engaged in the furniture and undertaking business and conducted this enterprise very successfully for more than twenty years, and by his industry and perseverance, and the systematic and honorable methods he followed, he won for himself not only the confidence of his fellow citizens, but a comfortable competence for his old age. About ten years ago he sold out this business to Perry Pritchett and retired from active life.

To Mr. and Mrs. James V. Emerson have been born three children: Charles N., the immediate subject of this sketch; Cora, the wife of Samuel B.

Thompson, lives three miles north of Owensville, and has one daughter, Alice; Pearl married C. A. Voight, and lives at Catlin, Illinois, near Danville, and has one daughter, Olga.

Mr. Emerson and all of his family are members of the General Baptist church at Owensville and have always taken a very active part in all the affairs of that denomination. Through their church affiliations they have been the means of doing an unlimited amount of good in their community. Mr. Emerson has been for many years a member of the Free and Accepted Masons, and is a valued and respected member of that fraternity.

Charles N. Emerson, son of James V. Emerson, has lived in Owensville since he was five years of age. He completed his common and high school education in that town, and then continued his educational career by a course in the Oakland City College, followed by a course in Millikan University, at Decatur, Illinois. While attending school, he began to teach in 1897 in the district schools of his county and taught three years, then, having qualified himself for high school work, he became the principal of one of the Princeton ward schools, where he taught for one year, later being principal of the Owensville school for two years. Mr. Emerson had uniform success in all his teaching experience and the profession lost a good instructor when he decided to leave the pedagogical profession and enter the banking business. In 1903 he entered the employ of the First National Bank, of Owensville, as bookkeeper, and by close application to his business he soon merited a promotion and became cashier in August of the following year, which position he has held since. His teaching experience and college training, combined with good sound business judgment, has made him a banker of the first rank.

Mr. Emerson has always taken an active part in the Democratic politics of his town and county, and his fellow citizens have shown their confidence in him by electing him a town trustee and he is now serving his second term as town clerk, and in his official capacity he has shown the same business ability which characterizes him in his financial dealings. In Masonic circles he is master of the Owensville lodge, a position which he has held for four years. He is also a member of the Royal Arch Masons at Princeton. Mr. Emerson is a type of the highest example of the young American business man, one whose integrity, strength of character and genuine worth have forced him into a position of respect in the community. As a factor of the body politic he has performed well his every duty and no one questions his standing in this favored locality of the commonwealth of Indiana.

Charles N. Emerson was married in 1904 to Emma Stunkle, who was born at Haubstadt, the daughter of Ed. F. and Ellen (Williams) Stunkle.

Her parents were both born and reared east of Fort Branch, this county. Her father's death occurred in Owensville and her mother still resides there. Mr. and Mrs. Emerson move in the best social circles of Owensville, and their friends are in number as their acquaintances, for they enjoy the esteem and high regard of all with whom they come in contact.

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#### MARTIN A. MONTGOMERY, M.D.

Fortunate indeed is the family which can trace its history back for more than three generations and there are very few that can do more than trace their genealogy back as far as four generations. The family history of the Montgomerys has been traced back in an unbroken line to the eleventh century and investigation has shown its descendants by the thousands. They are found scattered over Europe and over many of the states in this country, and wherever they are found they rank among the best families in the community. Gibson county may count itself fortunate in having the descendants of one branch of this family living in its midst.

Thomas Montgomery, the great-great-grandfather of Dr. Martin A. Montgomery, was the original settler of that name in Gibson county. He was known as "Pretty Old Tom." He came to Gibson county first in 1804 and looked over the territory open for settlement and finally selected a tract of land for entering.

It is interesting to note briefly the origin of the Montgomery family. Their genealogy has been worked out along several different branches of the family and David B. Montgomery has spent several years in tracing back the branch of which he is an honored member. In 1902 he published a volume of his researches, in which he showed briefly the history of several thousand members of the family. The origin of the name is conjectural, but it is most likely from "Mons Gomeris" or "Gomers Mount." This name has been traced back through the descendants of the United States, back through Ireland, through Europe down near the Loretto in Italy. In the course of many generations the name has had no less than forty-three variations of spelling until the adoption of the present spelling. A direct line of descent has been traced back to Robert D. Montgomery, who died in 1261. Hugh Montgomery, the great-great-great-grandfather of Dr. Martin A. Montgomery, was born in Ireland of Scotch-Irish descent, and he was the first member of this branch of the family to come to America and he became

# LOSS OF PHYSICIAN AND GOOD CITIZEN

Dr. M. A. Montgomery Called from  
Active Life—Will be Greatly  
Missed

The death of Dr. Martin A. Montgomery is a severe and sad loss, not only to his family and relatives, but to the community at large. He was a man of action, kind and generous, one who loved his profession, and seemingly used it more for the help of others than for his own benefit.

Dr. Montgomery was a friend to every one. He always had a word of greeting or a cheering remark. Even in the sick-room he tried always to bring a ray of sunshine.

## Obituary

Martin Adolphus Montgomery, son of David B. and Nancy Jane Smith Montgomery, was born June 20, 1875, died October 19, 1918, age 43 years 3 months and 29 days.

He professed a hope in Christ in March, 1889, during a revival meeting at the General Baptist church under the pastorate of Rev. Wilson Blackburn, assisted by Rev. J. R. Edwards. He joined the General Baptist church March 8, and was baptized May 19, of the same year.

His life has been one worthy of emulation. He remained true to his profession of faith in God and was always ready and willing to give freely of his means to support the church of his choice and gave liberally toward the support of other denominations.

Martin, as he was familiarly called by his friends and relatives, was a graduate of the Owensville high-school class of 1893. He graduated from the University Medical College at Louisville, Ky., in 1898, and began the practice of medicine in Owensville in April, 1898.

He was married to Josie Strehl, Oct. 1, 1899. To this union were born one son, Harold Martin, and a daughter, Maxine Lucile.

Dr. Martin was a very successful physician, going wherever called regardless of the time of night, conditions of roads or weather. Many times when physically unable he responded to the call of his patients, thus sacrificing his own health and comforts that the pain of others might be relieved if possible. His visits to his patients were like a ray of sunshine. He was always cheerful in the sick-room, even in the most serious cases. By his genial disposition he won an unlimited number of friends, who will remember him for the good he has done. His life, a life of self-sacrifice,

was spent in this community, where he was loved and respected by all who knew him.

He leaves to mourn his death, besides his wife and two children, his aged father, one sister, Mrs. George R. Simpson, and a host of friends and relatives. Thus ends a very useful life. Let us bow in humble submission to the will of God, who doeth all things well and best.

Dr. Montgomery was initiated into the mysteries of Masonry April 26, 1915, passed May 7, 1915, and was raised to the sublime heights of a Master Mason May 14, 1915. Received the Royal Arch degree Aug. 22, 1916. He was true to his lodge and faithful to attend its meetings at all times when his business would permit. The Masonic order was second only to his church. Owensville Lodge No. 364, F. and A. M., feels that in his death they have lost a dear brother Mason and readily enter into the bitter sorrow of Brother Montgomery's family. As a lodge they feel that they have been made poorer by his death, but realize that the great lodge above has been made richer in the addition of another member.

The funeral sermon was preached at the home in the presence of a host of his relatives and friends by his pastor, Rev. Claude Neal.

## EISIE M. AYERS.

Instead farm and of age the family moved to the place where he has educated in the district schools of his township and the parental roof. When he reached his twenty-first further education and started to high school, where diligent study trying to prepare himself for the ministry he taught school for three years, when the ministry he taught school for three years, when missionary and preached for some years. His health, of the best, was now severely injured by a sunstroke. For health, he continued his studies and took charge of his zeal for doing good was so strong within him that and consequently he reached the point where he was to work in the ministry. Upon giving up his ministry to the farm where he has continued to reside. The farm has not kept him from active participation during all the years which he has lived on the farm he has interest and part in all the church work of his

4. David B. Montgomery was married to Nancy Jane of John Martin Smith. Mrs. Montgomery died on this union were born two children, Martin A., the im-sketch, and Leana A., the wife of George R. Simpson,



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been traced back through the descendants of the Unit  
Ireland, through Europe down near the Loretto in  
many generations the name has had no less than fo  
spelling until the adoption of the present spelling.  
has been traced back to Robert D. Montgomery, who  
Montgomery, the great-great-great-grandfather of  
gomery, was born in Ireland of Scotch-Irish descen  
member of this branch of the family to come to A

Finding Doctor Alvarado's office was  
losed, as he had anticipated, O'Reilly  
roceeded to the doctor's residence.  
here was some delay when he rang  
he bell, but eventually the dentist  
himself appeared. O'Reilly recognized  
him from his resemblance to his  
brother. He addressed him in English.  
"I come from Felipe," he began. "He  
Bell remembers the day you whipped  
him to keep him from going to the  
Ten Years' war."

The languor of Doctor Alvarado's  
esta vanished. He started, his eyes  
widened.

"Who are you?" he muttered.

"My name is O'Reilly. I am an Ameri  
can, a friend, so don't be alarmed.  
The man you see approaching is fol  
lowing me, but he thinks I have come  
to you with a toothache."

"What do you want?"

"I want your help in joining the in  
urrectos."

By this time the detective had come  
within earshot. Making an effort at  
self-possession, the dentist said: "Very  
well. I will meet you at my office in  
half-hour and see what can be done."  
Then he bowed.

O'Reilly raised his hat and turned  
away.

Doctor Alvarado's dentists' chair

## PROPER CARE OF PATIENTS

### Surgeon General Blue Tells What to Do for Persons Sick With Spanish Influenza—Use of Gauze Masks Recommended.

Washington.—In an effort to reduce unnecessary calls on the over-worked physicians throughout the country because of the present epidemic of influenza, Surgeon General Blue of the United States public health service calls upon the people of the country to learn something about the home care of patients ill with influenza. Physicians everywhere have complained about the large number of unnecessary calls they have had to make because of the inability of many people to distinguish between the cases requiring expert medical care and those which could readily be cared for without a physician. With influenza continuing to spread in many parts of the country, and with an acute shortage of doctors and nurses everywhere, every unnecessary call on either physicians or nurses makes it so much harder to meet the urgent needs of the patients who are seriously ill.

#### Present Generation Spoiled.

"The present generation," said the surgeon general, "has been spoiled by having had expert medical and nursing care readily available. It was not so in the days of our grandmothers, when every good housewife was expected to know a good deal about the care of the sick."

"Every person who feels sick and appears to be developing an attack of influenza should at once be put to bed in a well-ventilated room. If his bowels have moved regularly, it is not necessary to give a physic; where a physic is needed, a dose of castor oil or Rochelle salts should be given."

"The room should be cleared of all unnecessary furniture, bric-a-brac, and toys. A wash basin, pitcher, and slop bowl, soap and towel should be at hand, preferably in the room or just outside the door."

"If the patient is feverish a doctor should be called, and this should be done in any case if the patient appears very sick, or coughs up pinkish (blood-stained) sputum, or breathes rapidly and painfully."

"Most of the patients cough up considerable mucus; in some, there is much mucus discharged from the nose and throat. This material should not be collected in handkerchiefs, but rather in bits of old rags, or toilet paper, or on paper napkins. As soon as used, these rags or papers should be placed in a paper bag kept beside the bed. Pocket handkerchiefs are out of place in the sick room and should not be used by patients."



the progenitor of this American branch of the Montgomery family in this country. He settled near Jamestown, Virginia, but later moved to Roanoke, North Carolina. His sons, Samuel and Thomas, left Virginia for Kentucky, and later went on to Indiana, where they settled in Gibson county. Thomas Montgomery took part in the war of the Revolution previous to his coming west. The two brothers, Samuel and Thomas, located in Montgomery township, Gibson county, on the line between Union and Montgomery townships, where they entered adjoining farms from the government, and here they spent the remainder of their lives and reared large families.

Dr. Martin A. Montgomery, the immediate subject of this sketch, is the fifth in direct descent from the Thomas Montgomery who served in the Revolutionary war and came to Gibson county in 1804. Martin A. Montgomery's father, David B., was born October 20, 1845, his father being John R., Jr., born May 4, 1817. John R. Montgomery's father was Walter C., born at Roanoke, Virginia, in 1784, his father being Thomas Montgomery, the same who fought in the war of the Revolution and came to Gibson county in 1804.

David B. Montgomery spent his boyhood on the homestead farm and when he was three years of age the family moved to the place where he has since resided. He was educated in the district schools of his township and grew to manhood under the parental roof. When he reached his twenty-first year he felt the need of further education and started to high school, where he spent two years in diligent study trying to prepare himself for the ministry. Before entering the ministry he taught school for three years, when he became a home missionary and preached for some years. His health, which had never been of the best, was now severely injured by a sunstroke. However, despite his poor health, he continued his studies and took charge of several churches. His zeal for doing good was so strong within him that he neglected his health and consequently he reached the point where he was compelled to forego further work in the ministry. Upon giving up his ministerial charges, he returned to the farm where he has continued to reside. However, his work on the farm has not kept him from active participation in church work, and during all the years which he has lived on the farm he has taken a very active interest and part in all the church work of his community.

On October 1, 1874, David B. Montgomery was married to Nancy Jane Smith, the daughter of John Martin Smith. Mrs. Montgomery died on March 24, 1899. To this union were born two children, Martin A., the immediate subject of this sketch, and Leana A., the wife of George R. Simpson,

and they have one child, Darwin D., who is now attending school at Oakland City College. David Montgomery is still actively associated with the General Baptist church of Owensville and has been secretary of the home mission board for the past thirty-nine years. At the present time he is also president of the board of trustees of Oakland City College. Mr. Montgomery has always taken an interest in the welfare of the General Baptist church, and in 1882 he published a comprehensive history of this denomination, tracing its growth from its organization in 1611 up to 1882. His second volume was "The Montgomerys and Their Descendants," which was published in 1903 by J. P. Cox, of Owensville. This volume was followed by "Life of Dr. A. D. Williams," late president of Oakland City College. He is now engaged in the preparation of his fourth volume for publication, entitled "John Roberts and His Descendants."

Martin A. Montgomery, son of David B. and Nancy J. (Smith) Montgomery, was born June 20, 1875, two miles northeast of Owensville. When he was a small boy his parents moved two miles and one-half southeast of Owensville, where he grew to manhood. His early education was secured in the district schools of his township, and this was supplemented by a college course at Oakland City College. After his graduation from this institution, he entered the University of Louisville in 1895, and completed the medical course of that institution in the spring of 1898. Immediately upon his graduation he began the practice of medicine in Owensville, and has continued in the active practice in this place until the present time. From the spring of 1904 to the fall of 1912 he was in partnership with Dr. J. R. Montgomery. As a physician he has built up a large practice and by his scholarship and his skill in treating those needing his services he is accounted one of the most popular physicians of the county. His work as a physician has been recognized by his town in his appointment as health officer by the town council. He has also served two years on the town council, and is now a member of the county pension board. He and Dr. J. R. Montgomery are surgeons for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company and, by virtue of this fact, are members of the American Medical Association of Railway Surgeons. He is also a member of the Owensville and Gibson County Medical Society, the State Medical Society and the American Medical Association.

On October 1, 1899, Dr. Martin A. Montgomery was united in marriage to Josephine Strehl, the daughter of Sebastian and Sarah (Goolman) Strehl. The father was a native of Germany, his birth having occurred on June

22, 1847, in Rhinefalz, Bavaria. He was a son of Sebastian and Barbara (Denlar) Strehl, and grew to manhood in his native country, where he followed the trade of a tailor. Upon reaching his majority, he came to America, settling in Evansville, this state, later moving to Linnville, Pike county, this state, where his brother resided, and there spent about a year, after which he located at Boonville. Two or three years later he went to Rockport, but soon returned to Boonville, where he continued in his work as a tailor for about three years. His health failing, he was compelled to give up indoor work and turn to outside occupations. At this time he came to Gibson county and settled on a farm near Owensville, where he has been engaged in farming since. In 1878 he was married to Sarah Goolman, a native of Crawford county, Indiana, the daughter of Joseph Goolman. To Mr. and Mrs. Strehl have been born four children, Josephine, the wife of the subject of this sketch; Frank, agent for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company at Owensville; Daisy, the wife of Dr. Jesse Emerson, a dentist of Owensville, and Belvia, deceased. Mrs. Martin A. Montgomery spent her girlhood on her father's farm near Owensville. After completing the course in the common schools she was a student in the college in Vincennes, and after her graduation from this university she taught two years in the primary department of the schools at Owensville. To Doctor and Mrs. Montgomery have been born two children, Harold Martin and Maxine Lucile.

Fraternally, Doctor Montgomery is a valued member of the Tribe of Ben-Hur and takes an active interest in the deliberations of that order. Mrs. Montgomery is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. Mr. Montgomery is a member of the General Baptist church and Mrs. Montgomery is an earnest and faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Owensville, and they have always taken an active interest in all that pertains to the welfare of these denominations. Doctor Montgomery is an honored citizen of his community, not only as a physician and public official, but as a citizen who takes an interest in every movement looking toward the betterment of his community. His value to the place honored by his residence cannot be estimated by the ordinary standard, since a physician in any community occupies a most peculiar position. As a conservator of public health he is the most important man in any community, and if to his duties as a physician he adds those of a public official he serves a double duty to his community. Not only has Doctor Montgomery been a valued physician and excellent town official, but in all those things which go to make up the typical good citizen, he measures up to the highest standard.

## JAMES B. GAMBLE.

Success in this life is almost always won by the truly deserving. It is an axiom demonstrated by all human experience that a man gets out of this life what he puts into it, plus a reasonable interest on the investment. The individual who inherits a large estate and adds nothing to his fortune, cannot be called a successful man. He that falls heir to a large fortune and increases its value is successful in proportion to the amount he adds to his possession. But the man who starts in the world unaided and by sheer force of will, controlled by correct principles, forges ahead and at length reaches a position of honor among his fellow citizens, achieves success such as representatives of the two former classes can neither understand nor appreciate. To a considerable extent the subject of this sketch is a creditable representative of the class last named, a class which has furnished much of the bone and sinew of the country and added to the stability of our government and its institutions.

James B. Gamble, the well-known attorney of Princeton, is not a native of Gibson county, although that is the locality with which he has identified himself so firmly, having first seen the light of day in Carmi, Illinois, on December 19, 1853. He is the son of Robert and Nancy (Crowder) Gamble. Robert Gamble was a native of Baltimore, Maryland, and the mother was born and raised in White county, Illinois. Mr. Gamble was early bereft of a mother's tender care, as he was but six months old when she died. There had been another child in the family, but it is also dead. The father took as his second wife a Mrs. Bradshaw, who bore him three children. Mr. Gamble's occupation was that of a carpenter, and when the Civil war began he enlisted in the Eighty-seventh Illinois Infantry, commanded by Col. J. M. Crebs. He was among the many unfortunate ones who never came home again, as he died in the service while his regiment was at Memphis, Tennessee.

James B. Gamble received his earliest instruction in the public schools of Carmi, Illinois, afterward coming to Fort Branch, Indiana, where he attended high school. It was his desire to fit himself as a school teacher, and in this he was successful, teaching in the Gibson county schools for five years. However, this young man had still higher ambitions and was received into the office of Judge William N. Land, of Princeton, where he took up the reading of law. After diligent application to his chosen profession he was admitted to the bar in August, 1877, since which time he has been practicing in Princeton with the exception of six years. This was from July, 1900, to

July, 1906, during which period he was commissioned a special United States revenue agent.

Mr. Gamble early became interested in politics, identifying himself with the Republican party, and by this party was twice elected mayor of Princeton, serving one term of four years and one term of two years.

On October 11, 1883, Mr. Gamble was married to Naomi J. Land, daughter of Judge Land, with whom he had been associated in the early days of his profession, and who receives specific mention elsewhere in this work. To this union have been born three children, Vesper L., aged twenty-six, John H., aged seventeen, and William O., aged fifteen. All of the children are still at home, the family circle being unbroken. Mr. Gamble belongs to the time-honored body of Free and Accepted Masons, and has advanced in this as far as the chapter work. He is a member of blue lodge No. 231 at Princeton, and is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

Mr. Gamble is too well and widely known to make it necessary to add that he is a man of integrity and sterling worth, who holds the honor and respect of his community. He is one of that admirable body of men who can justly style themselves "self made," and have just cause for pride in their accomplishment. By his unfailing ambition and strict adherence to right principles, he has won for himself an enviable name and his wide influence is willingly extended in behalf of every deserving enterprise that has for its object the advancement of the moral welfare of the community.

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#### SIMON FRENCH.

The gentleman whose name heads this paragraph is widely known in Johnson county and is one of the honored citizens of Union township, where he is living in honorable retirement after a strenuous life of activity in connection with agricultural pursuits. His well-directed efforts in the practical affairs of life, his capable management of his business interests and his sound judgment have brought to him prosperity, and his life demonstrates what may be accomplished by any man of energy and ambition who is not afraid to work and has the perseverance to continue his labors in the face of any disaster or discouragement that may arise. In all the relations of life Mr. French has commanded the confidence and respect of those with whom he has been brought into contact and a biographical history of this locality would not be complete without a record of his career.

Simon French was born March 5, 1846, on the old French farm in Patoka township, Gibson county, Indiana, and has spent practically his entire life in this locality. The father, Phillip French, was born on February 12, 1807, in the state of New Jersey. In early manhood he went to Danville, Kentucky, where he was employed at his trade of brick mason and plasterer. On October 7, 1837, in Kentucky, he married Ann DeMott, a native of that state, born on November 22, 1816, and eventually they came to Gibson county, Indiana, by wagon and he entered forty acres of wild land, on which they erected a typical pioneer log cabin. The land was covered with a dense growth of timber and efforts of the most strenuous character were necessary in order to put the land in shape for cultivation. Mr. French put a puncheon floor in his cabin, made a stick chimney, and in every respect their home was a typical frontier place. Mr. French cleared and improved this place and lived there until the end of his life, his death occurring on November 5, 1855. His wife survived her husband many years, dying in 1894. Mr. French was a successful farmer, raising also a great deal of live stock and, in addition to his agricultural pursuits, he was frequently employed by the neighbors as a mason and brick-layer. At the time of his death he was the owner of one hundred and forty acres of good land. He was a Democrat in his political views, and in religion his wife was a member of the General Baptist church. Widely known throughout this section of the country, he was highly respected and esteemed by his entire acquaintance. To him and his wife were born the following children: Peter, born September 11, 1838, lived in this county and also in Kansas, where he followed agricultural pursuits. He is now deceased. He married Melinda Keys, and after he died she became the wife of Squire Weed, of Fort Branch. John J., born January 15, 1839, died in early youth. Mary Ellen, born January 30, 1840, died unmarried. Martha Jane, who died April 24, 1841, became the wife of William Landfair, of Maxim Station, Indiana. Ephraim, born November 24, 1843, died at the age of nineteen years. Simon, the immediate subject of this sketch. William, born December 29, 1850, is a farmer near Dyersburg, Tennessee. Philip B., born February 9, 1856, is a farmer in Union township, this county.

Simon French had but little opportunity to secure a school education, but, being studiously inclined, he acquired a large and accurate fund of general information, being considered a well-informed man. He remained with his parents until he was twenty-five years of age, when he was married, and soon afterwards bought a farm of fifty-three acres in Patoka township. The land was partly improved, but Mr. French at once went to work and brought it up to a high standard of agricultural excellence. He also bought the old

homestead farm, on which he lived for ten years, when, in 1903, he moved to Fort Branch, where he is now living retired from active labor. He owns a number of valuable farms in this county, and has in all, in Patoka and Union townships, seven hundred acres of fine land, being numbered among the most substantial citizens of his section of the county. He has always followed farming and stock raising as a vocation, and has met with phenomenal success in both of these enterprises. Starting in life in a small way, he has, with most persistent industry, steady perseverance and good management, gained quite a competency and is numbered among the county's wealthy citizens.

In 1871 Mr. French married Louisa Davis, a native of Patoka township, Gibson county, Indiana, the daughter of Samuel and Jane (Barker) Davis, the mother a native of Owensville, Indiana, and the father of South Carolina. The latter was a farmer during his active life, his later residence being in Patoka township, this county. They were the parents of six children, namely: George; Louisa; Bentley; Mary, who lives on the old home place; Ella, who married Frank Kimmer, of Princeton, and John, who also lives on the old home farm. To Mr. and Mrs. French have been born seven children, of whom six are living, namely: Rosie, the wife of Henry Martin, a farmer in Union township, this county; Vada, who died in early youth; Jesse, who lives on a part of the old homestead farm; Samuel, also a farmer on part of the subject's farm; Stella, the wife of Owen Stephens, of Patoka township, this county; Mary, the wife of Wilbur Strickland, of Princeton, and Barney, a farmer in Patoka township.

Politically a Democrat, Mr. French has for many years been an active participant in local public affairs, though never actively seeking office on his own account. Religiously, he and his wife are earnest and faithful members of the Regular Baptist church. Personally, Mr. French is greatly esteemed by his neighbors, and his name stands for upright conduct and a high standard of manhood and citizenship.

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#### WILLIS H. TICHENOR.

From the time of Tubal Cain the artificer in iron has been one of the most important factors in civilization. He it was who forged the first implements of the field and the weapons of war. The iron worker made possible the mail-clad knight of the Middle Ages and later the cannon which changed the whole course of civilization. In all the communities of Indiana



the blacksmith made all the tools the farmer used, the axes, the saws, the hoes and the horseshoes. The blacksmith was the original iron foundryman, the first iron manufacturer, and without him no community could long exist. In the treaties which the United States entered into with the Indians of Indiana in the early history of the state, it was always stipulated that the Indians were to be supplied with a blacksmith. He was as essential to the community in its industrial life as was the minister to its religious life and the teacher to its intellectual life. Even to this day no community could dispense with the blacksmith, and for these reasons too much honor cannot be accorded this important occupation. Among the men of this occupation in Gibson county, no one stands any higher than does Willis H. Tichenor, the subject of this review.

Willis H. Tichenor, the son of Timothy M. and Elizabeth (Hudelson) Tichenor, was born in Owensville, Indiana, on October 8, 1850. Timothy Tichenor was a native of this county and followed the trade of a blacksmith all his life. His shop in Owensville became the center of an extensive trade and by his remarkable skill in iron work, he became one of the most important men in the whole county. No one can gainsay the fact that a good blacksmith is a big asset to any community, and especially was this so at the time when he was following the trade. Shortly before his death, he went into the saw-mill business in Owensville and followed that occupation very successfully. Timothy Tichenor was born July 11, 1829, was married December 24, 1849, and his death occurred January 3, 1895. His wife, Elizabeth Hudelson, was born November 9, 1831. To them were born eight children: Willis H., the immediate subject of this sketch; Daniel Crawford, who married Louisa Roberts, lives on a farm about four miles north of Owensville and has one child, Elsie; Luther M., who married Almedia Daugherty, lives on a farm one mile south of Owensville and has four children, Mary, Anna, William and Hazel; William Seward, who lives with his mother in Owensville, she being now past eighty-two years of age; Florence, who married John Daugherty, a farmer of this township, is the mother of two children, Oscar and Frank. After the death of John Daugherty, which occurred in 1910, his widow married Elmer Coleman, also a farmer living about two miles east of Owensville; two children who died in infancy.

Willis H. Tichenor spent his boyhood days in Owensville, securing his education in the common school of his home town and learning the trade of a blacksmith in his father's shop, and continued in this occupation until about a year before his marriage, when he went into business for himself.



About 1890 he sold out his blacksmithing establishment and entered into the implement business across the street from his old shop. He is the agent for the Deering and International Harvester Companies. He carries a full and complete line of farming implements of all sorts and has a large patronage throughout the county. No man stands higher in the community as a business man than does Mr. Tichenor.

Willis H. Tichenor was married first in December, 1874, to Louisa Lucas, the daughter of Francis and Mary (Mauck) Lucas. This union was blessed with four daughters, Mary, who died at the early age of two years; Florence Belle, the wife of Arthur Brown, a farmer living near King's Station, is the mother of two children, Eunice and Mildred; Nellie W., the wife of Robert Redman, a farmer of this township, and they have four children, Eva, Howe, Birdena and Eugene; Emma Ethel, the wife of Francis Thompson, a blacksmith of Owensville, and they are the parents of three children, Paul, Raymond and Mary Elizabeth. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Tichenor married Elizabeth (Williams) Barker, daughter of Perry and Nancy (Meadows) Williams, and to this union were born four children, Warren, who died at the age of three years; Wallace P., who married Eva Speer, and lives in Owensville, following the trade of a blacksmith with his father; he has one child, Charles Willis; Erma, who is still at home with her parents, and Earl W., deceased.

Mr. Tichenor has always adhered to the principles of the Republican party, but has never been an office seeker, although he served for two terms as councilman in the town of Owensville, at the same time with Henry Dugan and Lewis Whitenbaugh. Fraternally, he is a member of the time-honored order of the Free and Accepted Masons, and has always taken an active part in the workings of that organization. He and his wife have been loyal and earnest church workers during their long residence in this county, he being a member of the General Baptist church of Owensville, and a deacon of that denomination at the present time, while his wife belongs to the Regular Baptist church. They contribute liberally of their substance to the support of their respective churches. Mr. Tichenor, by his industry and sound judgment, has been very successful in the management of his business and well merits a place of honor in this history. He has always been upright in his dealings with his fellow citizens and, because of his sterling qualities, he has made friends of all with whom he has come into contact. He has always actively identified himself with all those movements which have for their purpose the bettering of the moral, social or intellectual life of the community in which he lives.

## JACOB W. MAUCK.

Poets often tell the truth and the old song which contains the refrain, "The farmer feeds them all," states a very fundamental and economic truth. Without the farmer the rest of the country would starve within a week despite the large amount of food in cold storage. Every occupation might be done away with but farming and people could live, but a total cessation of farming for a very short time would actually depopulate the whole world. A man can live without banks all his life, but deprive him of his bread and his career is soon ended. Farming is becoming an honored profession; our district schools are teaching it as a science and our colleges are granting degrees for agricultural courses. The farmers of any community sustain the people dependent on every other profession. Without the farmer the banker would close his doors, the manufacturer would shut down his factory and the railroads would suspend operations. Among the honored men of Gibson county, Indiana, who help to keep the banker, the manufacturer and the railroads is the subject of this sketch.

Jacob Warrick Mauck, son of Thompson G. and America (Knowles) Mauck, was born August 25, 1852, one and one-half miles northwest of Owensville, Gibson county, the father and mother both being natives of this county. They were married in 1851, and immediately moved on to the old Rutter farm, about three-fourths of a mile east of the old homestead, where they lived for six years. He was engaged in general farming all his life and also bought and sold considerable live stock. For a number of years he was also agent for the old wooden binder in this county. They were the parents of five children: Abraham, who married Margaret Johnson, lives in Denver, Colorado, where he is engaged in the lumber business, and he has seven children, Harvey, May, John, Myrtle, Joseph, Ethel and Thompson; Asa, who died at the age of thirteen; Matilda married Henry W. Smith and lives on a farm between Owensville and Princeton, and has three children, Mrs. Nora Armstrong, America, who died at the age of two years, and Earl R.; John A., who married Ada Robinson, is a traveling man, and they have two children, Bernice and Hilda; Jacob W., the immediate subject of this sketch. Mrs. America Mauck died in 1891, and in the fall of 1892 Mr. Mauck married Augusta Emerson, of Gibson county. Thompson G. Mauck's death occurred in August, 1911, his widow surviving him two years, dying in the spring of 1913.

Jacob W. Mauck, the subject of this sketch, was married November 30,

1876, to Lucy, the daughter of James S. and Parmelia (Davis) Mounts. Her father is a native of this county, his birth occurring about two miles south of Owensville. He followed the occupation of a farmer all his life, his death occurring on his farm on February 21, 1899. His widow survived him several years, her death occurring on August 5, 1908. They were the parents of eleven children: Abijah; Joseph Lane, deceased; Silas L., deceased; Elijah, deceased; Lucy, the wife of the subject; Mary; Martha, deceased; Ida A., the wife of Jefferson Welborn, a farmer of this county; Flora, deceased; Oscar, who married Flora Armstrong, is a farmer of this county, with five children and one who died in infancy.

Jacob W. Mauck spent his boyhood on the farm, attending the schools of his neighborhood in the winter seasons, and working on the farm during the summer. Early in life he decided to make farming his life's work and two years before marriage he began farming for himself, renting ground from his uncle, Samuel Mauck, of this township. He continued operations on this farm after his marriage until 1879, when he had the misfortune to have his house burned down. He then moved to the Jackie Simpson farm of fifty acres, where he remained for two years. Feeling that he could better his condition by buying a farm of his own, he purchased the Beard and Davis farm four miles northwest of Owensville, from his brother-in-law, Silas L. Mounts. On this farm of one hundred and twenty acres he farmed for thirty-two years, bringing it to a high state of cultivation and improving it in every way. He stocked his farm with the best stock obtainable and proved to be a very successful agriculturist. Upon the death of his father, he moved to his father's old place and remained there for about two years, when he moved to Owensville in August, 1911, having been appointed trustee of Montgomery township in February of that year. Mr. and Mrs. Jacob W. Mauck have four children: Nora, who died at the early age of two years; Asa, who married Mary Robb, lives on his grandfather's old farm, and he is the father of three children, Irene, Warren and Arva; Elijah, who died in 1897; George, who married Ethel Bush, lives on his father's old place near Owensville.

Fraternally, Mr. Mauck is a member of the time-honored order of Free and Accepted Masons, at Owensville, and takes an active interest in all the workings of this organization. Politically, he has always affiliated with the Democratic party and has always taken a live and active interest in the affairs of that political body. His sterling worth as a citizen and business man was recognized by his appointment as trustee of his township in February, 1911, and for the short time that he has been in the office he has discharged its

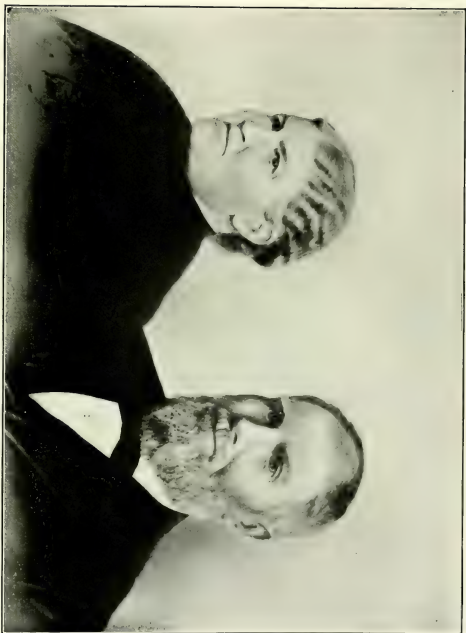
arduous duties to the entire satisfaction of the community and township. Mr. Mauck is a quiet and unassuming man, of genial disposition, firm in his convictions and one who has always looked out for the best welfare of his township. As a public official he has shown an honesty and integrity which stamps him as a public citizen which makes for the best in our civilization. He has gained his success through legitimate and worthy means and stands today as an honorable type of the self-made man.

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### HENRY WHITE.

Examples that impress force of character on all who study them are worthy of record. By a few general observations may be conveyed some idea of the characteristics and worthy career of Henry White, for many years a well known farmer of Gibson county, Indiana, who is now living in honorable retirement in Patoka township, having, through his industry and perseverance, accumulated a competency. He has pursued the even tenor of his way in a quiet and unostentatious manner which never courts publicity, attending strictly to his own affairs, doing the right as he understands it and keeping his conscience void of offense towards God and man. It is not a matter of wonderment that the elements of a solid and practical nature, which unite in his composition, should win him a conspicuous place in his community, when we learn that he comes of a sterling family, a family that believed not only in keeping busy along legitimate lines of endeavor, but also in living up to the highest standard of citizenship in every respect.

Henry White was born in Westphalia, Germany, in November, 1834, the son of William and Minnie (Schulmeier) White, both also natives of that place, where they lived and died. They were farming folk and people of eminent respectability in this community. They were the parents of four sons: William, who died in Germany; Henry, the immediate subject of this sketch; Charles, who came to America in 1851, and was taken sick and died at Cairo, Illinois; Ernest, who is living in Germany. The subject had but little opportunity to attend school in his native land, and as a boy he was hired out in order to reduce the expense of the family. When a lad of fifteen years he started to America alone, coming on a sailing vessel, and, after a rough and stormy voyage of eleven weeks, the boat having been held at Bremen for two weeks, they landed at New Orleans. The experiences of this



MR. AND MRS. HENRY WHITE.



journey will never be forgotten by those who took part. When they crossed the North sea it was very rough and cold, and the subject froze his feet so badly that he could not walk, and when they reached the Atlantic ocean in March the sea was calm and the weather mild. The captain ordered all hands on deck, so they could fumigate the ship. They took tar buckets and, heating irons very hot, put them in the buckets to fumigate, and the tar caught fire and caused a panic among the passengers, who rushed in every direction. The subject, however, was unable to walk, and was badly frightened before the danger was over. There was much sickness, as well as vermin on the ship. After landing at New Orleans the subject came up to Princeton, Indiana, where he obtained employment with John Irvin for a short time, and then worked on a railroad eight miles west of Vincennes. Later he returned to Gibson county and worked in a saw-mill for Cleveland Polk, west of Princeton, on the Marsh creek, on the Owensville road, where he helped cut the timber from the land. He was married in 1863, and soon after settled at Cherry Grove, west of Princeton, where he remained about three years, and then went to Warrick county, this state, near the south line of Gibson county, and remained there for eleven years. He then obtained one hundred and sixty acres of land in White River township, Gibson county, which had on it an old log house and stable, and there the subject made many permanent and substantial improvements, cleared the land and created a splendid home. Here he reared and educated his children and carried on general farming and stock raising in such a way as to not only win a comfortable competence, but also a reputation as a good business man.

On January 22, 1863, Mr. White was married to Mary Guise, who was born in Indianapolis, Indiana, on December 1, 1814, the daughter of William and Mary (Grover) Guise, the father a native of Germany and the mother of Pennsylvania. William came in young manhood to America, locating in Indianapolis, where he engaged in the baking business, at which he was an expert. In 1852 he came to Gibson county, and bought a farm in Patoka township, where he spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring at the age of sixty years. His wife died at the age of seventy-three years. He was a Lutheran in his religious belief, while his wife was a member of the Baptist church. They were the parents of eight children. Mary, Mrs. White; Nancy, the widow of George T. Burton, of Princeton; Sophia, who became the wife of Charles Hisey, a farmer of Patoka township; Augustus, of Oakland City, Indiana; William, a retired farmer in Princeton, Indiana; Christina,

the wife of Fred Hasselbrink, a farmer in Patoka township; Henrietta, deceased, the wife of John Kiefer; Lizzie, who remains single and is living in Indianapolis. To Mr. and Mrs. White have been born four children: Emma, the wife of Fred Kohlmeier, of Center township, where he operates a farm. They have eight children: Myrtle, who died at the age of eleven years; Sadie, the wife of Fred Gasper, a farmer in Center township, and they have two children, Freda and Henry; Henry, a teacher at Francisco, and John, Leroy, Ethel, Ruth and Fred, Jr., at home. Albert White, who is a successful farmer in Patoka township, married Annie Hasselbrink, and they have five children, Arthur, Althe, Adelbert, Henry and an infant daughter, dead. Sallie S. White became the wife of Thomas Carithers, a farmer in Patoka township, and they have one son, Kenneth, living and one son dead. Cassius, who also is a farmer in Patoka township, married Ida Key, and they have two children, Kermit and Leland.

Mr. White retired from active farming operations in 1900 and settled on the old home place, north of Princeton, where he bought a ten-acre tract, and is now comfortably situated and able to spend the rest of his days in comfort and quiet. He and his wife are faithful and earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal church and they take a deep interest in all religious efforts. Mr. White derives great comfort from the reading of the Blessed Word. He has always been a staunch Republican in politics, though never very active in public affairs. A man of splendid personal character, because of his correct life and his genuine worth, Mr. White has long enjoyed the good will and confidence of his neighbors, and he is eminently worthy of representation in a work of the character of the one at hand.

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### COLUMBUS EMERSON.

The twentieth-century farmer knows very little of the disadvantages which surrounded the pioneer farmer of this state. No longer is the farmer compelled to rise early in the morning and continue his labors far into the evening. The farmer of today can do as much work in a half day as his father could fifty years ago in a whole day. The free mail delivery leaves the daily paper on his doorstep each morning; his telephone puts him in communication with his neighbors, while the interurban car and automobile enable him to participate in all the features of city life. The present generation of farmers have no forest to clear, few swamps to drain, while hundreds



of inventions designed to lighten the labors of the farmers have been put into their hands. The flail of our fathers has given way to the threshing machine of today and even the old-fashioned corn cutter is laid on the shelf and the corn is now cut by machinery. The old-fashioned shucking peg has given way to the modern corn husker, and, surrounded by such conditions, the farmer of today can have all the advantages of the citizens in the city with **few of his disadvantages**. The pioneer farmers are fast passing away and within the next few years they will be gone. The subject of this brief biography is one of those farmers who struggled in the early fifties and sixties of our state's history to build for himself a comfortable competency on the farm. Columbus Emerson has known what it was to clear the forest, to drain the swamps, to build the roads through the morasses, to cut wheat by hand and perform all those multitudinous tasks which fell to the lot of the pioneer farmer.

Columbus Emerson, the son of Jesse and Margaret (Redman) Emerson, was born July 28, 1842, in Johnson township, Gibson county, Indiana. Jesse Emerson was born in Kentucky, the son of Reuben Emerson, and came to this county early in life. Reuben settled in Johnson township, between Cynthiana and Haubstadt. Margaret, the wife of Jesse Emerson, was born in Adair county, Kentucky, and lived there until she was about six years of age, when her parents moved to Montgomery township, this county, and purchased the farm northeast of Owensville, where her father's death occurred shortly after the close of the Civil war, while her mother lived a few years longer, her death occurring at Princeton.

Columbus Emerson is one of eight children born to Jesse and Margaret (Redman) Emerson: Reuben, Charles, Logan, Columbus, the immediate subject of this sketch; James J., Mrs. Augusta Mauck, Josephus and Mrs. Martha W. Smith. Columbus was reared on his father's farm and enjoyed all the advantages, as well as the disadvantages, incident to farm life at that time. Here he learned those habits of industry and economy which have characterized him throughout his long career in the county.

In 1865 Mr. Emerson was united in marriage to Sarah Skelton, the daughter of Joseph and Nancy (Montgomery) Skelton, and they are the parents of five children, namely: Mrs. Morton Woods, who has one daughter, Edith, lives two miles north of Owensville; Joseph, who married Agnes Pegram, has three children, Herman, Hildred and Eugene, and lives four miles north of Owensville; Jesse D., who married Daisy Strihl, has one son, Robert, is a dentist at Owensville; Otis married Anna C. Cushman, and has

five children, Earl, Mark, Byron, Eleanor and Margaret, lives on the old home place four miles northeast of Owensville belonging to the subject's father; Gussie L., wife of W. Oscar Dougherty, lives two and one-half miles southwest of Fort Branch, and they have one son, Doris. The mother of these children died about twelve years after her marriage and subsequently Mr. Emerson married Mary A. (DePriest) Dougherty, of Owensville, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Franklin Dougherty, and her death occurred in 1903. In 1905 Mr. Emerson married Mrs. Hannah J. (DePriest) (Baldwin) Mounts, who was born between Princeton and Patoka, the daughter of James M. and Rebecca (Devin) DePriest. Her father was born near Nashville, Tennessee, and was brought in infancy by his mother to this state, his father having died in Tennessee. James M. DePriest grew up on the farm and after his marriage farmed for a short time. Before the breaking out of the Civil war he moved to Princeton, where he engaged in general merchandising, and for a period of nineteen years he was in partnership with a Mr. Mauck, the firm being known as Mauck & DePriest, and was located on the northwest corner of the public square. Rebecca Devin, the mother of Mrs. Hannah J. Emerson, was born near Devin Hill, north of Princeton, the daughter of James and Hannah (Chapman) Devin, the father having come from Pittsylvania county, Virginia, with a number of others of the Devin family. His father, Alexander Devin, was a Baptist minister, and is buried at Princeton. Her mother, Hannah Chapman, came from on Parren river, near Hartford, Kentucky. She lived on her father's farm north of Princeton until she was fifteen years of age, and then moved with her parents to Princeton, where her father engaged in general merchandising. In June, 1865, she married John L. Baldwin, and resided in Princeton for a time, later removing to the West, where her husband engaged in business. They were the parents of four children, Anna, who died in infancy; May, the wife of William L. Jones, of Carlisle, Indiana, and they are the parents of eight children; John, who lives in St. Louis, has one son, John W. Baldwin, of Indianapolis, is a railroader; Will, who married Myrtle Mills, has five children, three of whom are living, is in the railroad shops at The Dals, Oregon. John L. Baldwin died in 1874, and his widow afterwards married John Mounts, and lived at Iola, Kansas, on a farm. There were two children by this marriage, Myrtle and Fred. Myrtle died in infancy and Fred is a sailor on a Pacific coast vessel. Mr. Mounts' death occurred in Princeton in 1900, and his widow continued to reside in Princeton until her marriage to Mr. Emerson in 1905.

Columbus Emerson has been a life-long farmer in Montgomery town-

ship, this county. His whole life has been spent in civil pursuits with the exception of three years which he spent at the front during the Civil war. His military record is a matter of congratulation among his friends and is a pride to his country. His career as a soldier was attended with the same good fortune which has followed him in his civil pursuits. Brave and true, he well deserves, however, the success with which he met while gallantly serving in defense of his country's flag during the Civil war. He enlisted in Company B, Sixty-fifth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was assigned to duty in the Army of the Ohio. From the date of his enlistment, August 9, 1862, until the close of the war, he was in every campaign of this regiment. He served through Tennessee and saw Sherman to Atlanta, where he fought in that memorable summer's campaign around that city. From Atlanta he went back to Nashville with Thomas and later, after the bloody battle of Stone River, in January, 1864, his regiment was transferred to Columbia in eastern Tennessee. In the summer of 1864 he was on duty in the Carolinas and followed after Joseph W. Thomas to Greensboro, North Carolina, where he was stationed when Lee surrendered to Grant, and on April 8, 1865, at the close of the war, was mustered out with an honorable record. During this period of three years he was in more than fifty battles and skirmishes and yet he was fortunate to come through unscathed.

Immediately after the close of the war Mr. Emerson came back to his home county, and after a short time he purchased a farm five miles north of Owensville, which he continued to operate for a number of years, and then sold it and bought his father's old farm, where he lived until 1904, when he retired from active farming operations and moved to Owensville, where he still resides.

By his industry and good business judgment, Mr. Emerson now owns two hundred and eleven acres of fine land in this county, one hundred and one acres in Union township and one hundred and ten in Montgomery township. During his long career in this county Mr. Emerson has stood for everything which tended toward the bettering of the moral and intellectual life of the community. He and his wife have been life-long members of the Cumberland Presbyterian church and have contributed liberally of their means during all these years toward the support of that denomination. Mr. Emerson is also one of the oldest members of the Free and Accepted Masons in the county.

It is interesting to note that Mrs. Emerson's first husband was a valiant soldier during the Civil war and spent several months in the notorious Libby

prison before he was liberated. Mrs. Emerson's grandfather, James Devin, was in the battle of Tippecanoe in 1807. Her great-grandfather, Alexander Devin, was one of the forty-three members composing the first constitutional convention of Indiana in 1816. He was one of the two delegates sent from Gibson county.

The mother of Columbus Emerson died June 6, 1889, his father's death having occurred several years before, on November 6, 1878. Mr. Emerson is a type of the sturdy pioneer, who has brought the agricultural interests of our state to the present state of perfection. During his long residence in this county he has seen all of the modern improvements gradually introduced into farming. As a citizen no one is more highly respected in the county than is he, and as a veteran of the Civil war all delight to honor his name.

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### JAMES E. BELOAT.

To make a success of agriculture it is necessary to be something more than a hard worker. A farmer might labor from dawn to twilight every day in the year and yet fail to accomplish much; there must be sound judgment and discretion exercised at the same time, a knowledge of soils, grains, live stock, and, in fact, general business. The man who accomplishes much as a tiller of the soil and the manager of a landed estate in these days should be accorded a place along with the men who succeed in other walks of life, for often it requires more ingenuity and courage to be a farmer than anything else that claims the attention of men in the world of affairs. A brief review of the life and career of James E. Beloit, retired agriculturist, of Haubstadt, Gibson county, will suffice to show that he has achieved success in his life work partly because he has worked for it and partly because he was a good manager and a man of proper habits.

James E. Beloit was born April 8, 1853, in Johnson township, Gibson county, Indiana, the son of George and Martha (Reel) Beloit, both natives of the same township and county, the father being a son of James Beloit, who was a native of Scotland, and the mother a daughter of Henry Reel.

The subject's maternal grandfather, Henry Reel, who was one of the early settlers in Gibson county, first located near Patoka, removing shortly thereafter to Johnson township, where he bought a piece of land from John J. Neally, the first postmaster of Princeton. Here he settled with his family, later taking up government land, and on this place he raised a family of twelve

children and lived to a ripe old age. In addition to his agricultural pursuits, he drove a stage for a time between Evansville and Vincennes. He was a man of great energy and action and a leader in his time. During the Indian wars in Tecumseh's time Mr. Reel took an important part in the suppression of the troublesome redskins.

The subject's grandfather, James Beloit, was of Scotch descent, although he was born in America. His immediate ancestors hailed from the highlands of the land of Bobbie Burns and spoke the Gaelic language of that section. At the extremely early date on which the grandfather settled in Gibson county, the country was in an almost primitive condition and Indians were quite numerous in that vicinity.

George Beloit, father of the subject, purchased the land which he occupied during his lifetime from his father-in-law, Henry Reel. He enlisted, in August, 1862, in the First Indiana Cavalry and served with his regiment until honorably discharged in 1865, being wounded while in the service, but not seriously. At one time his entire company was captured. Among them was a private, a Missourian, who had previously been taken prisoner and had taken the oath of allegiance to the South. Knowing that as a Confederate prisoner he would be shot, he decided he might as well be killed in attempting to escape as in any other way, so decided to make the effort. He was joined by the subject's father and three others, all of whom were successful in eluding the sentries and reaching the Union lines in safety. George Beloit was a representative citizen, an elder in the Presbyterian church for thirty-one years, and when he died in 1902, at the age of sixty-two, his demise was mourned by a large circle of friends. His widow, who was also a member of the Presbyterian church and a woman well versed in the genealogy of the family and in local history, died in 1910, at the age of eighty-four.

To the subject's parents were born six children, who were: James E.; Thomas, now in Princeton; Marcus lives in Oakland City; Kate, deceased, was the wife of John Fowler, of California; George lives near Fort Branch; Belle married Harter Bell, of Evansville.

James E. Beloit received a good education in the common schools of the district and attended the high school at Fort Branch. On completing his scholastic studies he actively engaged in agriculture on the homestead, and up to the time of his retirement devoted his energies and careful thought to the development and improvement of his holdings. Starting with one hundred and sixty acres of the home place, he has gradually acquired additional land as he was prospered until at the time of his retirement he was the possessor of two hundred and thirty acres of splendid land on which he conducted general

scientific farming and stock raising, taking especial interest in the latter branch of the industry. For a number of years Mr. Beloat bred Durham Cattle from the best registered stock, but when the Hereford, or whiteface, cattle came in, he turned to them and afterward raised large numbers of the latter breed. The soil of his farm is exceedingly fertile, due, no doubt, to his intelligent rotation of crops, and it has more than a local reputation for large crop production, as high as one hundred and ten bushels of corn having been raised to the acre.

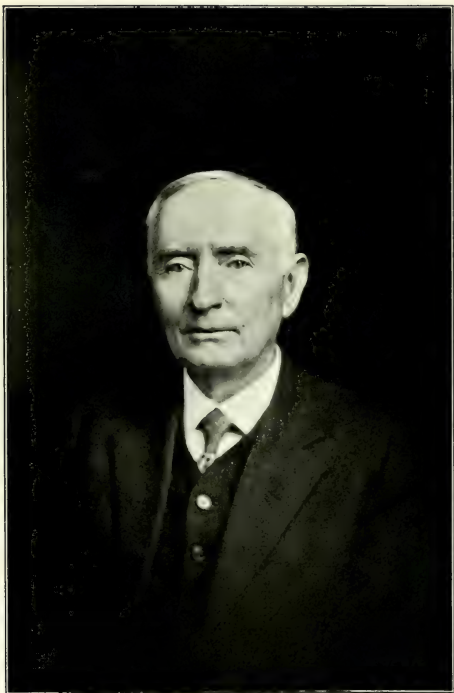
Mr. Beloat was married in February, 1873, to America Brumfield, of Vanderburg county, Indiana, daughter of David Berry Brumfield and Elizabeth A. (Redmond) Brumfield, he a native of Vanderburg county, Indiana, and she of Warren county, Kentucky. The grandfather of Mrs. Beloat was Berry Brumfield, who came to Indiana in pioneer days and spent almost his entire life in this state. The father of Mrs. Beloat was a farmer who lived near Owensville and was a consistent church member and an honored citizen.

To Mr. and Mrs. James E. Beloat has been born one child, Estrella, who is the wife of John Bryant, of Fort Branch. The subject and his wife occupy a nice residence in Haubstadt, where they are spending the evening of life in content, surrounded by friends and enjoying a well earned respite from the toils and cares of a busy and useful life. They are consistent members of the Presbyterian church, to which they contribute liberally of their means.

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#### ARTHUR PERRY TWINEHAM.

Indiana has been especially honored in the character and career of her active men of public service and the professions. In every section have been found men born to leadership in the various vocations, men who have dominated because of their superior intelligence, natural endowment and force of character. It is always profitable to study such lives, weigh their motives and hold up their achievements as incentives to greater activity and higher excellence on the part of others. These reflections are suggested by the career of one who has forged his way to the front ranks and who, by a strong inherent force and superior ability, controlled by intelligence and right principles, stands today as a leading man of his community and state. Mr. Twineham has an enviable reputation as a lawyer in a community noted for the high order of its legal talent, while as the representative of his community in



ARTHUR P. TWINEHAM.





the Legislature of his state, he conducted himself with honor to his constituency. Success is methodical and consecutive, and Mr. Twineham's success has been attained by normal methods and means, the determined application of mental and physical resources along a rightly defined line. A self-made man in the truest sense of the term, Mr. Twineham is eminently deserving of representation in the annals of Gibson county.

Arthur Perry Twineham is descended from sterling old Scotch-Irish parentage on his paternal side, and from excellent Pennsylvania Dutch stock on the maternal side, the striking qualities of both of which seem to have entered into his make-up, giving to him the many desirable characteristics which have helped him cheerfully over rough places in his struggles for success, which might well have discouraged one of less optimism. Mr. Twineham was born in Switzerland county, Indiana, August 16, 1847, the son of William S. and Sarah Ann (Brant) Twineham. One other son was born to this union, Francis M., who died in Kansas twelve years ago, at the age of fifty years. Though the Twineham family, as above stated, is of Scotch-Irish descent, the name seems to be of English origin. The father of the subject, William S. Twineham, was born in Switzerland county, Indiana, in 1823, and died in 1888. He lived in the same county all his life. He came from a family of tanners, which trade he also followed. The mother of the subject was a native of Franklin county, Indiana, born in 1823 and died in 1889. The grandfather of the subject was Arthur Twineham, a tanner, who was born and passed his life in Switzerland county, Indiana. He married Miss Johnson and reared a large family. His father, the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was William Twineham, who came from Kentucky to Switzerland county, Indiana, in 1802. He was a merchant. His wife was a Stuart and they were the parents of a large family. The family name is still well known in Kentucky.

Arthur Perry Twineham received his elementary education in the country schools of Switzerland county and at the old Hartsville Academy in Bartholomew county. When a boy of fourteen, Mr. Twineham worked in a woolen mill and from that on has worked his own way in life. When only seventeen years of age, he and a chum ran away from their homes to Ohio where, in 1864, they enlisted in Company I, Fifth Ohio Cavalry. This was Kilpatrick's cavalry, which shared the hardships and later the honors of the famous march to the sea. He was mustered out of service July 1, 1865. After his services to his country were thus discharged, Mr. Twineham attended Wabash College at Crawfordsville, Indiana, for three years and was

graduated from the literary department of Indiana University at Bloomington in 1870. For a short time he taught school at Rockville, Indiana, and also at Greenfield, Indiana. This was merely a stepping-stone for him, for soon he was received into the office of the Hon. Daniel Vorhees at Terre Haute, Indiana, where he took up the reading of law. He later attended Indiana University for training in his chosen profession, and also studied one year in St. Louis. He came to Princeton in November, 1873, and has since made this place his home. From the very first he has taken an active interest in politics.

Mr. Twineham has been twice married. His first wife was Letta R. Behymer, a native of Switzerland county, by whom he had one daughter, Gertrude, wife of Dr. Charles A. French, of San Francisco, California. Mrs. Twineham died July 23, 1890, and on November 1, 1894, he took as his second wife Agnes Lockhart, of Princeton. Three children have been born to this union, Arthur Perry, Jr., aged eighteen, Charlotte, aged sixteen, and Mary Agnes, aged thirteen.

Endowed by nature with such traits as make one a natural leader, Mr. Twineham has had heaped upon him such honors as his city and county can give, although he has never sought an office of any sort, and has discharged all duties to the satisfaction of his constituents. Mr. Twineham has been city attorney, county attorney, and in 1884-5 served in the lower house of the Indiana Legislature. He was mayor of Princeton in 1907-8, resigning from that office to fill the position of postmaster of Princeton, to which he was appointed by President Roosevelt. This position he held for four and one-half years. He was a delegate to the national convention in Chicago in 1888, at which Benjamin Harrison was nominated for the Presidency. He served as county chairman for the Republican party from 1878 to 1882, and as district chairman of the first congressional district. He was a member of the Republican state committee from 1882 to 1886 inclusive. From President Harrison he received an appointment to the Round Valley Indian commission and served in California in 1892. He was the Republican nominee for Congress from the first district in 1892, but was defeated, and at the next convention at which his name was also mentioned, former Senator Hemenway received the greatest number of votes. Mr. Twineham is the present commander of Archer Post No. 28, Grand Army of the Republic, of Princeton.

Through the years of his residence in this locality, Mr. Twineham has been true to every trust reposed in him, whether of a public, professional or

private nature, and has commanded the respect of all who know him. Possessing a kindly and genial disposition, he readily makes friends and is a very agreeable companion. Gibson county has been dignified by his life and achievements and he is eminently deserving of this feeble tribute to his worth as a man and a lawyer and politician.

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#### MATTHEW WILM.

In the daily laborious struggle for an honorable competence and a solid career on the part of the average agriculturist there is little to attract the casual reader in search of a sensational chapter; but to a mind thoroughly awake to the reality and meaning of human existence there are noble and imperishable lessons in the career of an individual who, without other means than a clear head, strong arm and true heart, directed and controlled by correct principles and unerring judgment, conquers adversity and, toiling on, finally wins not only pecuniary independence but, what is far greater and higher, the deserved respect and confidence of those with whom his active years have brought him in contact. Such a one is found in the person of Matthew Wilm, successful farmer and the present efficient trustee of Johnson township, Gibson county, Indiana.

Matthew Wilm was born March 27, 1806, in Johnson township, Gibson county, the son of John Wilm, a native of the fatherland, having been born in the town of Reiterswies, Germany. The subject's grandfather was also named John, and he emigrated to America in 1857, with his family, locating near Evansville, Indiana, and later moving to Gibson county in about 1850 or 1860, and taking up his residence in the town of Haubstadt, where he lived the life of a retired farmer, dying in the sixty-fifth year of his life.

John Wilm, father of the subject, first followed agricultural pursuits in his own behalf on a farm located about one-half mile west of Haubstadt, continuing in that location for four or five years, when he purchased land two miles west of Haubstadt, where he spent the remainder of his days, his death resulting from typhoid fever in 1882 in his forty-sixth year. His untimely death in the prime of life was greatly deplored by the community in which he resided, for he had gained a position of prominence among his neighbors and was loved and respected by his fellow men. To the subject's parents were born four children, namely: Mary and Magdalene are deceased; Matthew; John is a farmer in Johnson township.

Matthew Wilm spent his boyhood days in Johnson township, assisting in the work on the home place, and securing a good education in the public and parochial schools. When he attained to the age of twenty years he purchased a farm one mile south of Haubstadt and engaged in general agricultural pursuits and stock raising, and by a course of wisely applied energy and judgment has increased his original holdings of eighty acres to two hundred and forty acres, all of which splendid farm is under a high state of cultivation. His home is one of the best and the outbuildings are modern and convenient.

In 1908 Matthew Wilm was chosen by his fellow citizens as township trustee and he is still the efficient incumbent of that responsible office, his public acts having met the entire approval of his constituents.

Mr. Wilm was married on October 12, 1886, to Bina Greubel, of Johnson township, daughter of Adam Greubel, a native of Germany. This union has been blessed by the birth of nine children, namely: Margaret is the wife of Benjamin Oing, of Johnson township; Frank, Lonie, John, Magdalene, Matthew, Lizzie, Raymond and Lucille are at home.

Mr. Wilm and his wife are devout members of St. James Catholic church, to which they contribute liberally of their means, displaying a deep interest in the many worthy benevolences of that parish.

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### JAMES R. MONTGOMERY, M. D.

Among those who stand as distinguished types of the world's workers is the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this paragraph, who is one of the able and honored physicians and surgeons of southern Indiana. A man of fine intellectual and professional attainments, of most gracious personality, of strong and noble character, and one who has labored with zeal and devotion in the alleviation of human suffering, he is clearly entitled to representation among the progressive and enterprising citizens of Gibson county, Indiana. He is devoted to his chosen calling and has lent honor and dignity to the medical profession, having due regard for the highest standard of professional ethics and exhibiting marked skill in the treatment of disease.

James R. Montgomery, one of the most prominent physicians and surgeons of this county, was born September 16, 1879, in Gibson county, and is the son of Samuel Newton and Melissa (Redman) Montgomery. Samuel Montgomery is also a native of this county and has been a prominent farmer of his community all his life. He is now retired and lives at Cynthiana.

Mrs. Samuel Montgomery was a native of Posey county, this state, and died on December 26, 1913. They were the parents of five children: Otis L.; James R., the immediate subject of this sketch; Ruby, who married Willis E. Roe, an attorney of East Chicago, and they have two children, Fern and Luella; David Wilbur married Ethel Williams, and is a dentist at Evansville, Indiana; Essie, deceased.

Doctor Montgomery spent his boyhood days on the home farm, securing his elementary education in the common schools of his neighborhood and in the high school at Owensville. He continued his education in Valparaiso University, graduating from that institution with the degree of B. S. in 1898. After teaching school two years in his home township, he entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Chicago, in the fall of 1900, and took the four years course of that institution, graduating in the spring of 1904. Throughout his whole college course he took advantage of every opportunity and finished his medical course with honor to himself. Immediately upon his graduation he returned to Owensville and entered upon the active practice of his profession.

Doctor Montgomery was married August 25, 1905, to Cora A. Knowles, the daughter of Isaac and Martha (Cantrell) Knowles. Her father was a native of this county and followed the occupation of a farmer all his life. His death occurred in February, 1907. Mrs. Montgomery's mother was also a native of this county, and is still living on the old home place. They were the parents of six children, Mrs. Ada Gardner, whose husband is deceased, and who was married again to Joseph Davis, of Owensville, Indiana; Miss Lere Knowles; Cora A., the subject's wife; Roy and Loy, twins, and Luther, deceased. To Doctor and Mrs. Montgomery has been born one child, Arvid N.

Politically, Doctor Montgomery is a Republican, but has never sought any public preferment from his party, being content to devote all of his time and attention to his constantly increasing practice. He is a quiet, unassuming man, and is rapidly building up a large practice in this county. His broad human sympathy, technical ability and skill are placing him in the front rank of general practitioners in this section of the county. No one can measure the beneficent influence of good physicians, for their remarkable power goes hand in hand with the wonderful laws of nature that spring from the very source of life itself. Doctor Montgomery is true to his profession, and earnest in his effort to enlarge his sphere of usefulness, and therefore he is a benefactor to all of his fellow citizens, for him they trust their safety, their comfort and, in many instances, their very lives.

## WILLIAM H. PRITCHETT.

It is at all times very interesting to compile and preserve the experiences of the old soldiers who went to fight their country's battles during the slaveholders' rebellion of sixty years ago. These gallant old fellows are fast passing away, and we should get all of their experiences first hand, before they pass away and leave no record. It is important that we preserve these personal experiences, for after all those are the events which make history. What would history be worth were it not for the vivid actions of the individuals? That is all there is to the splendid histories of ancient and modern times. The story as told by one who passed through the bloody experiences of four years of struggle and was in numerous battles, marches, campaigns, and, perhaps, prisons and hospitals, is far more interesting than if narrated long hence by some writer who may distort events out of their true historic significance. One of the honored "boys in blue" who can recall many interesting reminiscences of the great civil conflict of the sixties is William H. Pritchett, who, after a successful life as a farmer, is now living retired in the town of Fort Branch, Gibson county, Indiana.

William H. Pritchett was born December 9, 1837, at Lanesville, near New Albany, in Harrison county, Indiana, the son of John L. and Mary (Jones) Pritchett. John L. Pritchett came to the Hoosier state in an early day and was married while a young man to the subject's mother. After her death, he married his deceased wife's sister, Margaret, and later moved to Patoka township, Gibson county, where he engaged in farming the remainder of his days, dying here at the age of seventy-six years. He was a man of industry and integrity, and was highly respected in the community where he resided.

On the removal of the family to Gibson county the subject of this review went to Terre Haute, Indiana, to work. However, the call soon came ringing through the land for volunteers to fight in the great war between the states, and Mr. Pritchett enlisted in Company B, Seventy-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry, Colonel Toppin, of Terre Haute, being in command of the regiment and Captain McKinney of the company when mustered out. Being mustered in at Indianapolis, the body of troops was sent to Richmond, Kentucky, where it was engaged in the struggle before that place in opposition to Gen. Kirby Smith. In this, their first engagement, they were defeated, being outnumbered almost seven to one. The soldiers of this regiment, together with those of other regiments, were taken prisoners, but in

the darkness of that night the subject and a comrade named William Hansel, from New Goshen, crawled through the weeds and made their escape. Eluding the Confederate sentries, they remained concealed in the woods until day-break, when they struck a pike road and started for Lexington, which they reached that evening. Their regiment lost two hundred and fifty men in this battle. General Smith being unable to take the prisoners with him, they were paroled and all returned to Indianapolis in order to recruit, where they were reorganized as the Sixth Indiana Volunteer Cavalry, under command of Colonel Biddle, Colonel Topping having been killed and Captain McKinney mustered out. Proceeding immediately to Nashville, Tennessee, they joined General Sherman's command and took up the pursuit of Hood as far as Atlanta, from where Mr. Pritchett's regiment went to Macon, Georgia, and destroyed the bridge and railroad, tearing up the track for a distance of some five miles below Macon. Here they had expected to join General McCook, but his force had been so badly cut up by the Confederates that he missed connections, so that the subject's command, on attempting to rejoin the main body of Sherman's column, was surrounded by the enemy and taken prisoners. Mr. Pritchett had previously been promoted to the rank of sergeant, and was in command of twenty-five men engaged in this hazardous task of cutting the lines of communication. Many were taken prisoners, but the subject was among the few who were fortunate enough to escape. Being in the enemy's country, it was a case of every one looking out for himself. Mr. Pritchett struck out for Colonel Adams' regiment, the First Kentucky, and on finding them joined Company F and went with this regiment to Marietta, Georgia, where he rejoined his old command, the First Kentucky's term of enlistment having expired at that time. They again started in pursuit of Hood, General Sherman's command starting on its famous "march to the sea." They took part in the fight at Franklin, Tennessee, where they fought until dark, killing a great many of the enemy. They then retired into Nashville, General Hood following, and in the battle which ensued the Union forces were victorious, but the subject's regiment, having been dismounted, was unable to again take up the pursuit of Hood. Returning to Pulaski, Mr. Pritchett was honorably discharged as a sergeant, and later mustered out at Indianapolis.

Returning to Terre Haute, the scene of his former labors, Mr. Pritchett engaged in mining, following that vocation for some years, and then removed to Gibson county, where he took up farming and followed it until his retirement.



W. H. Pritchett was married three times, his first wife having been Indiana Pursell, and to them were born two children, John W., who is in the telephone and telegraph business, and Gertrude, deceased. After the death of his first wife Mr. Pritchett was united in marriage to Martha Funkhauser, and to this union were born two children, Medie, who lives in Union township, and James Calvin, of Clinton, Indiana. The mother of these children having passed away, Mr. Pritchett was married to his present wife, who was Jessie Reed, and they are the parents of four children, Agnes, Jerry, Hovey and Floyd.

The subject is an honored member of Steven Meade Post No. 187, Grand Army of the Republic.

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### LYCURGUS L. KERN.

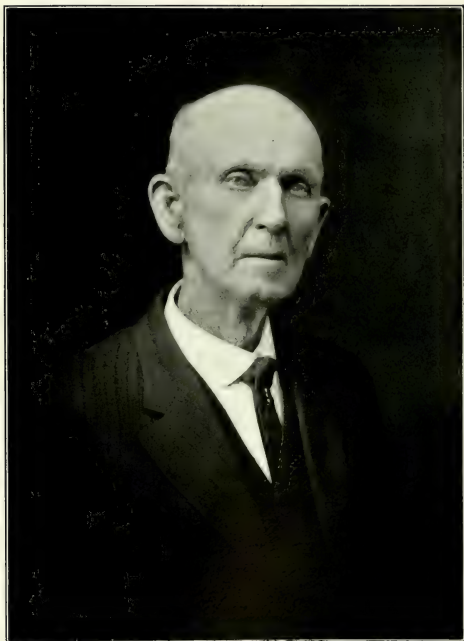
For many years the subject of this brief biographical review has occupied a very conspicuous place among the agriculturists of Gibson county. His career has been that of an honorable, enterprising and progressive man, whose well-rounded character has also enabled him to take an active interest in social and moral affairs and to keep well informed concerning the momentous questions affecting the nation. In all life's relations he has commanded the respect and confidence of those with whom he has come in contact, and his upright life has been an inspiration to the many friends who know him well and are familiar with his virtues.

Lycurgus L. Kern was born February 18, 1839, at Cynthiana, Posey county, Indiana, the son of Nicholas and Mary (Boyle) Kern. The father was a native of Pennsylvania and came to Indiana in pioneer times, engaging in teaching nearly all his days, he being a scholarly man and one who commanded the respect and admiration of his fellow men. He died in Putnam county while the subject was young, Lycurgus Kern being his only child.

After securing such education as could be obtained in the primitive schools of those days, the subject learned the tinner's trade, and engaged in this vocation until about twenty-six years ago, when he became interested in the coal business. He has also to some extent engaged in agriculture, being the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of good land in Patoka township, three miles from the town, which his son Joseph rents and cultivates.

In 1865 Mr. Kern was united in the holy bonds of matrimony to Joan-





LYCURGUS L. KERN.



etta Wallace, daughter of Thomas Wallace, who also was numbered among the sturdy pioneers of this section of the state. Thomas Wallace, who was a farmer and miller, is now deceased. To the union of the subject and wife have been born eight children, namely: Ella; Joseph N., as before mentioned, runs the home farm; Emma L., who is living at home, is employed as a clerk in Gilbert's store; Marie married a Mr. Bucklin and lives in Princeton; Anna, who was the wife of Ned Holbrook, is deceased; Curtis is deceased; Jesse has succeeded to the coal business formerly run by the subject; Edith married John Gibson.

Mr. Kern was a member of the band connected with the Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry during the dark days of the Civil war. He attempted enlistment three different times, but on each occasion was rejected on account of bad eyesight, so he finally got into the service by joining the band. He served with this organization during 1861 and 1862, and his persistency in the efforts he made to join the Union army and his eventual accomplishment of that desire is but an example of his tenacity of purpose and faithfulness to ideals which has made him so successful in the battle of life.

Fraternally, Mr. Kern is a faithful and appreciative member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, while his family are attendants on the services of the United Presbyterian church. Mr. Kern takes an abiding interest in whatever tends to advance the interests of his community, and because of his honesty and habits of strict attention to his business affairs, together with his neighborly friendliness, he is held in popular favor, as is also each member of his family.

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#### JOHN MANGRUM.

As long as history endures will the American nation acknowledge its indebtedness to the heroes who, between 1861 and 1865, fought for the preservation of the Union and the honor of that starry banner which has never been trailed in the dust in a single polemic struggle in which the country has been involved. Among those whose military records as valiant soldiers in the war of the Rebellion reflect lasting honor upon them and their descendants is the gentleman whose name forms the caption for this paragraph. He is a well known citizen of Gibson county, where he has long maintained

his home and won an honored name by virtue of his consistency to truth, honesty and right living. Therefore he is eminently qualified for a place in the present work.

John Mangrum was born January 9, 1842, in old Johnson township, Gibson county, Indiana, the son of Trafton Mangrum, of Johnson township, and Eunice (Boren) Mangrum, of the same locality. The subject's grandfather, William Mangrum, came from Lynchburg, Virginia, to Indiana in 1816, at that date there being but two log cabins on the site of the present city of Evansville, William Mangrum helping to saw the first lumber sawed in that city. He took up government land about three miles west of Haubstadt and, clearing away the dense timber, built a home. In addition to his labor on his land he was engaged in the freighting business, driving a six-horse team between Evansville, Vincennes and other points. The maternal ancestors were also pioneer settlers, they having located about a half mile west of the land entered by the grandfather. The maternal grandfather was John Boren, who was born in Tennessee.

William Mangrum and wife reared a large family, his death occurring in his fifty-seventh year. Some of his children settled near the homestead, one of them, however, going to Iowa. The subject's father got a place of his own in Johnson township in what was then and is now known as Froggery. He continued to reside there until his death, at which time he was seventy-one years and seven months old. One of the successful men of his neighborhood, active in church and school matters, he was a good citizen in every sense of the term. Of a family of six children, one died at the age of twenty-two, one at twenty-three and one at the age of two years. The three now living are: John; Caroline, the widow of W. F. Martin, of Cynthiana, Posey county, Indiana; James T. lives at Haubstadt.

The boyhood days of the subject of this review were spent in attending school in the primitive log educational institutions of those days and in assisting his parents in the cultivation of the farm. On President Lincoln's call for troops to defend the Union, he enlisted, on August 16, 1862, in Company F, Eightieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, under Colonel Brooks and Capt. R. J. Showers, being mustered into the service at Princeton, Indiana, on September 8, 1862. After remaining at the mustering point a few days, the regiment was ordered to proceed to Covington, Kentucky, via Indianapolis, that place being threatened by Gen. Kirby Smith. Stopping at Covington for a week or more without getting sight of the enemy, the force proceeded to Louisville, Kentucky, and joined the army under General Buell. October 1st they joined in what was known as the Bragg-Buell campaign, and on the 8th of that

month took part in their first engagement at Perrysville, Kentucky, where the divisions of Jackson and McCook bore the brunt of the fighting, Mr. Mangrum being in Jackson's division. During this engagement General Jackson and the brigade commander, Colonel Webster, were killed and the regiment lost one hundred and fifty killed and wounded. Bragg retreated that night, and the troops following drove him out of Kentucky. The command with which the subject was enlisted remained in Kentucky and had a number of skirmishes with General Morgan's cavalry. On August 18th the regiment left Kentucky and, with General Burnside's army, marched across the Cumberland mountains into the state of Tennessee and occupied Kingsville and Knoxville. An active campaign followed, and on October 7th they took part in the battle of Kingston, and in January, 1863, they were engaged at Mossy Creek with Morgan's old command and with Wheeler's cavalry, the Union arms being triumphant in this battle. From this time on until the spring of 1864 they were busily engaged, marching and fighting almost continually, skirmishes being of almost daily occurrence, and, as the subject has remarked, "fighting was more regular than meals." In the spring of 1864 the regiment left Tennessee with the Twenty-third Army Corps, under General Scofield, and joined General Sherman's army. They went into camp at Red Clay, Georgia, and on the 9th of May went in the direction of Dalton and took part in all of the important engagements from Dalton to Atlanta, including Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek and all the fights before Atlanta. At the battle of Resaca the subject's regiment went into the engagement with four hundred and forty-eight men in line, and in a few minutes lost two hundred and forty-eight killed or wounded, Mr. Mangrum being among those disabled. He was first sent to the field hospital and then to Chattanooga, where he remained two days, then to Nashville and placed upon the hospital boat on which he was removed to New Albany, Indiana, from which place he was, after six weeks, transferred to Evansville. After remaining at Evansville for a time, he recovered sufficiently to rejoin his command at Columbia, Tennessee, and subsequently took part in the battles at Franklin, Spring Hill and Nashville. After the battle of Nashville they drove Hood's force back into Alabama. After being sent to Washington to be refitted, they were ordered to Smithville, North Carolina, and then up the Cape Fear river, where they captured Fort Anderson and drove the Confederates on to Wilmington. Joining Sherman's army at Goldsboro, they proceeded to Raleigh, North Carolina, where they witnessed the surrender of Johnson. From this point the subject was sent to Salisbury, North Carolina,

where he was honorably discharged and mustered out at a place within two miles of the birthplace of his maternal grandmother Boren. Returning to Indianapolis, he was given his final discharge.

On September 1, 1864, Mr. Mangrum was married to Mary E. Muck, of Harrison county, Indiana, the daughter of John and Ursula Muck, pioneers of Harrison county, who afterward removed to Gibson county. To this union were born five children, namely: Ella C. married Rev. M. W. Clark, of Ladoga, Indiana; Oscar A. lives in Dallas, Texas; W. V. resides in New Harmony, Indiana; Pearl M. married Lasalle Bryant and lives in Fort Branch; Carl W. lives at Princeton, Indiana.

The subject was actively engaged in farming until 1909, when he sold his place and he is now living in honorable retirement. Mr. Mangrum and wife are enjoying the best of health and take enjoyment in the social activities of their many friends. On September 1, 1914, they will celebrate their golden wedding anniversary. Mr. Mangrum has efficiently served his county as commissioner two terms, is secretary of Company F, Eightieth Indiana Infantry organization, which position he has held for thirty years, and is an active member of the First Christian church, of Haubstadt, having served as superintendent of its Sunday school for the past eight years and been leader of the choir for nine years. He is also a member of Steven Mead Post, Grand Army of the Republic, occupying the position of adjutant of that body. Fraternally, Mr. Mangrum has been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows for thirty-five years. He has always been a Republican and has always taken a good deal of interest in local public affairs.

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#### W. G. HOPKINS, M. D.

The medical man of today must needs be more than the medical man of a half century ago, even a decade past. He must be broader and more intelligent; his sympathies must be more diverse, and his ideals must be placed high. The doctor of years past, if he practiced his profession for a length of time, reached a limit of excellence, not of his own accord, but by reason of the restrictions of medical science; and to prove this statement, it might be well to quote the words of Dr. Paul Ehrlich, the noted German scientist, who said "that more had been done, and more had been discovered, in the science of medicine during the past twenty years than in the past century." Specialization has become necessary; the theory of toxins and anti-toxins, serums, the

study of bacteria and methods of combating these destructive forces, and many other things, have made the range of medical science almost beyond one man's power of learning in the brief space of time which is his allotment on earth. True it is that the doctor of the past endured more hardships, received smaller remuneration, and in many other ways deserves credit for his pioneer work, but the present physician is a specialist, an expert diagnostician, an idealist striving for the prevention of disease rather than the curing, a moral doctor as well as physical, and a man who does not confine his talents to his one profession, but exhibits his powers among the other works of man. In this day the labor a man undergoes is not counted, it is the result of his labor alone by which he is measured—his productive powers.

This is not laudation nor encomium, but a slight effort to picture the class of men who deserve even more praise, men of which class are living and working today in Gibson county, as well as in other parts of the world. The subject of this sketch is Dr. W. G. Hopkins, of Fort Branch, this county, a man well suited to the words which have been written above, not only because he has made a marked success in his chosen profession, but because he has given his thought and energy to other things, which may be better described in the course of the following brief narrative of his life.

W. G. Hopkins was born August 1, 1844, in Middleton, Wayne county, Illinois, and was the son of Capt. C. C. and Beulah (Huddleston) Hopkins. The father was from near Hopkinsville, Kentucky, and the mother was a native of Alton, Illinois. The subject's paternal grandfather was named John Hopkins.

Capt. C. C. Hopkins engaged in agriculture during his early life and in 1856 was elected a member of the Illinois Legislature on the Democratic ticket. However, in 1860, he renounced his affiliation with that party and supported Abraham Lincoln in the significant campaign of that year. At the opening of hostilities in 1860 between the North and the South he was commissioned a lieutenant, later being promoted to the captaincy of his company, which was a part of the Fortieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. His command took part in a number of important engagements and at the battle of Shiloh he received a wound in the neck. The records of the war department at Washington make specific mention of his bravery as a soldier. After being honorably discharged from the service he retired to his farm and was appointed a deputy provost marshal, a position which, owing to the peculiar conditions existing at that time, caused him to make many bitter enemies among the element opposed to law and order. It is related that on one occasion he, in company with a few soldiers belonging to Captain Parker's

company, went down to Wayne county, Illinois, in the bottom of a little river called "The Skillet Fork," where some Southern sympathizers had built a fort named Fort Shipley. Captain Hopkins sent one of his soldiers to demand their surrender and they agreed to do so. They were then taken prisoners, but owing to the feeling aroused over his having broken up the fort, Captain Hopkins was shot to death. This occurred in the year 1865. After fourteen years' search the subject and his brother, Wesley, located the man who fired the shot, finding him in Missouri. Taking along a deputy sheriff, they surprised him in bed and captured him without resistance, bringing him through to Middleton, Illinois, where neighbors helped guard him all night, he being placed in the county jail the next day, and subsequently tried and sentenced to the penitentiary for a period of fourteen to twenty-one years.

To the subject's parents were born five sons and five daughters, namely: Wesley, the eldest son, served three years in the Fortieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, when he was honorably discharged owing to an injury to his foot; John M. was a second lieutenant in Company I, Fortieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, later reaching the rank of sergeant-major. He met his death in a boat which was burned by the Confederates at Vicksburg; Charles C. was a private and was killed in the battle of Shiloh; Elvira, deceased, was the wife of John H. Barnes, of St. Louis, Missouri; Hester Ann is the wife of James Alexander, also of St. Louis; Saleta, deceased, was the wife of Edward Flint of St. Louis; Sonora, deceased, was the wife of Doctor Trowsdale of St. Louis; an infant, deceased; Thomas S. was a physician, a graduate of Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York City, and he died at Ridgeway, Illinois, in the fall of 1882; the subject of this review was fourth in order of birth.

W. G. Hopkins received his elementary education in the common schools of Middleton. In the spring of 1865 he enlisted in the One Hundred and Thirty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under Colonel Johns and Capt. John Burke, being assigned to Company B of that regiment. This made the fifth member of this family to enter the service of their country, his father and three brothers having preceded him. He joined his regiment at Centralia, Illinois, and while the command was engaged in no great battles, they participated in a number of skirmishes. After receiving an honorable discharge at the close of the war, Doctor Hopkins returned to the home farm, where he remained for about a year, and then took up the study of medicine with Dr. W. S. A. Cox in Belle City, Hamilton county, Illinois. The Doctor then attended the Evansville Medical College, graduating there. Then,



in company with his brother Thomas, he took a course at Bellevue Hospital Medical College in New York City, both graduating from that institution in 1882. Previous to this time the Doctor had practiced at Ridgeway, Illinois, and about 1877 he located at Fort Branch, Gibson county, Indiana, where he has since continued and has built up a large and lucrative practice. Doctor Hopkins is a member of the White River District, the Ohio Valley and the Gibson County medical societies. Being a member of the county society, he is naturally affiliated with the State Medical Society.

Doctor Hopkins was married to Emma Porter, daughter of Capt. Braxton Porter, of Kentucky, and to this union have been born the following children: Willard T. graduated from the Fort Branch high school, after which he attended Indiana University at Bloomington, then taking up the study of law in St. Louis. Graduating from the law school, he opened an office in Princeton, Indiana, where he had a most promising outlook, when he was cut off in the prime of life by appendicitis. He was highly respected by his fellow members of the bar, as well as by the citizens of Princeton, and the bar association passed resolutions on his death, calling attention to his worthy life and works; Stella is deceased and Mabel is residing at home.

The subject owns an excellent farm of eighty acres east of Fort Branch. The ground is in an excellent state of cultivation, typical of the best farms of Gibson county. The subject has long taken an intelligent interest in the breeding of blooded stock, specializing in standard bred trotting and pacing horses. At the present time he is owner of "Klatawah," race record 2:05½ at three years old, which is the world's record for a pacing stallion; "Strongwood," the sire of over seventy in the list; "Jay Bool," which is also a great speed sire. All of these horses have national reputations.

Doctor Hopkins is a loyal member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and was a member of the United States pension board at Princeton for fourteen years. Fraternally, he is an appreciative member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

As a promoter of public enterprises for the good of Gibson county, Doctor Hopkins has displayed unusual interest and has devoted much time. He has aptly and rightly been called "the father of good roads" in Gibson county, due to his efforts in behalf of improved highways. Long before there was an improved road in the county, he was, by word of mouth and with his trenchant pen, spreading the gospel of progress in this line.

In literary work the Doctor has also "won his spurs." He is an able writer, and his forceful, virile style is well known to Gibson county and

Indiana readers. He writes not only from a fund of knowledge, but upon his strong views regarding the current issues of the day. For instance, in the last two Presidential campaigns the Doctor has contributed many articles to the different newspapers throughout the country, some of his best and strongest being on the subject of protective tariff, a subject about which he has some very decided views. Dr. Hopkins is a Republican of the "first water," and in the face of adversity, as in November, 1912, buckles on his armor and fights all the harder. So, it is not strange that his fellows hold his name in respect and that his reputation is high as doctor, soldier, farmer and writer. And so the value of versatility is proved.

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### J. W. KURTZ.

An enumeration of the representative citizens of Gibson county, who have won recognition and success for themselves and at the same time conferred honor upon the community dignified by their citizenship, would be decidedly incomplete were there failure to make specific mention of the popular gentleman whose name initiates this review, who has long held worthy prestige in business and social circles and has always been distinctively a man of affairs. He wields a wide influence among those with whom his lot has been cast, ever having the affairs of his county at heart and doing whatever he could to aid the general development of his native locality, thereby deserving the applause which is today accorded him by all classes.

J. W. Kurtz was born in Gibson county, January 5, 1848, the son of William and E. I. (Arbuthnot) Kurtz. The father was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in 1818, and emigrated to the state of Indiana in early days, locating first at Vincennes, later at Patoka and then at Princeton, Gibson county, where he worked in the newspaper business and took an active interest in political affairs, serving as auditor of the county for ten years and as a member of the school board for eighteen years. He was a public-spirited man, being allied with the Democratic party until the outbreak of the Civil war, at which time he transferred his allegiance to the Republican party, later in life, however, voting independently. To the subject's parents were born nine children, of whom three are yet living, namely: Joseph is residing in Princeton; Clara married S. F. Brazelton, who is a township trustee; and J. W.



HENRY KURTZ.



After J. W. Kurtz had completed his early education, acquired in the common schools, he clerked in a grocery store for about a year and then worked in a printing office for about the same length of time, at the end of which period he went into the grocery and fancy goods business and was so engaged from December 1, 1864, until 1895. In the latter year Mr. Kurtz took up the real estate and insurance business, which he still continues and in which he has been eminently successful. He handles the local business for some of the strongest and most reliable companies in the country, among them being the Fidelity-Phenix Insurance Company of New York, the Liverpool and London and the Globe Companies, the Germania Fire Insurance Company of New York, the Connecticut Fire Insurance Company of Hartford, the Queen Fire Insurance Company of America, and others equally as well known. In his real estate business he has confined his operations to city and county property.

In October, 1878, Mr. Kurtz was united in marriage to Ophelia C. Baldwin, daughter of Reuben and Nancy (Harper) Baldwin, Reuben Baldwin being a well known old settler and merchant of Gibson county. To the subject and wife have been born two children; Fred B. is a physician and lives in Indianapolis; Ralph B. is in business with his father.

Never being ambitious to become an officeholder, Mr. Kurtz has contented himself in the exercise of his franchise in the interests of the Republican party and left the oftentimes intemperate scramble for public office to those so inclined.

His present residence is a commodious and comfortable one and it is situated on the lot on which stood the house in which he was born.

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### GEORGE D. SEITZ.

Holding distinctive prestige among the leading business men of Haubstadt, Gibson county, Indiana, and standing out clear and distinct as one of the public-spirited citizens of his community, George D. Seitz has achieved an honorable record as an enterprising, self-made man, who from a modest beginning and by his own undivided efforts has worked his way to a position of affluence and influence in the commercial world. His life has been one of unceasing industry and perseverance and the systematic and honorable methods which he has ever pursued have gained for him the unbounded confidence

and esteem of his fellow men and a permanent place among those to whose energy, sound judgment and superior foresight the town of Haubstadt is so largely indebted for its advancement.

George D. Seitz was born in the fatherland in the month of June, 1852, the son of John Seitz, who emigrated to America in 1860, later bringing his family to this country. He located in New York city, and soon afterwards enlisted in the Federal army, from which time all trace of him has been lost. The subject of this sketch was placed in an orphanage for a time, and was then sent west to the state of Indiana, where he was reared, working at farm labor until he reached the age of eighteen, at which time he took employment with a railroad company which was afterward merged with the Chicago & Eastern Illinois. While in the service of this railroad in the capacity of brakeman, the subject was so unfortunate as to lose a leg, the accident occurring while he was engaged in switching in the yards at Princeton. The railroad company gave him employment, as soon as he was able to again take up active work, as agent, he being the first agent of the company at Haubstadt, assuming the duties and responsibilities of that position in 1874 and continually serving in that capacity for eighteen years.

In 1892 Mr. Seitz resigned as agent and engaged in business for himself, opening up a lumber yard, the first in the community. He was married, on March 14, 1875, to Nioma J. Ott, of Carlisle, Indiana, the daughter of John Ott, one of the representative citizens of that place. This union has been blessed by the birth of three children, namely: Amy Grace is the wife of Joseph Tenbarg, of Haubstadt, who is in business with his father-in-law; Sophia Florence is the wife of Frank Riffert, of Haubstadt, and Dora K. is living at home.

By a course of methodical industry and upright dealing, Mr. Seitz has steadily increased the volume of his business, to which he has added a saw-mill and a planing-mill. He handles a large amount of southern lumber, some from the state of Washington, and also saws quite a large amount of native timber. The mills and large lumber sheds are located conveniently adjoining the railroad track, affording splendid shipping facilities. They are located with an eye to decreasing fire hazard, and in every respect are absolutely up to date in construction and equipment. Located near his business is the subject's fine modern residence, surrounded by a large and well-kept lawn, in which Mr. Seitz takes justifiable pride.

The subject of this biography was one of the prime movers in the erection of the Christian church, it being the first Protestant church in the township, and he has always taken an active part in its growth and upkeep. He is

proud of the fact that since its construction in 1904 he has missed but four services and these were on account of illness or being absent from the town. Along with his other activities, the subject is vice-president of the Bank of Haubstadt, and has had a large part in the development of that staunch financial institution.

For thirty years the subject has been a faithful and appreciative member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is also affiliated with the Tribe of Ben-Hur. In every phase of his activities he has established a reputation for being a good, clean, upright citizen, and his friends are in number as his acquaintances.

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### SAMUEL HAMILTON WEST.

One of the most difficult literary tasks is to write an unexceptionable review of a living man. If the life is worthy of record there is always danger of offending that delicacy which is inseparable from merit; for even moderate praise, when it meets the eyes of its subject, is apt to seem fulsome, while a nice sense of propriety would not be the less wounded by a dry abstract containing nothing but names and dates. To sum up a career which is not yet ended would appear like recording events which have not yet transpired, since justly to estimate the scope and meaning of a history it is important that we have the closing chapter. In writing a biographical notice, therefore, the chronicler from the moment he takes up his pen should consider the subject as no longer among his contemporaries, for thus will he avoid the fear of offending by bestowing praise where it is merited and escape the risk of giving but a fragmentary view of that which must eventually be taken as a unit. At some risk, therefore, the writer assumes the task of placing on record the life and character of a man, who, by the force of strong individuality, has achieved eminent success in the vocations to which he has addressed himself and has won for himself an enviable place among the leading men of the city and county honored by his citizenship.

Samuel Hamilton West was born in Johnson township, Gibson county, Indiana, July 8, 1861, the son of Samuel H. West, born in the same township and county in 1820 and died in 1898, and Catherine (Sidle) West, a native of Meadville, Pennsylvania. The subject's grandfather, James West, came to Indiana from near Nashville, Tennessee, early in the nineteenth century and was one of the settlers in the Rappists' colony at New Harmony, but becoming dissatisfied after about a year, he removed to Gibson county, where he

was one of the pioneers. He was a man of devout religious convictions and was active in the organization of the first Methodist church. He was a successful and honored man in his community, rearing a family and giving them as good an education as the limited school facilities of that time afforded. His death occurred in his seventieth year.

The subject's father, Samuel H. West, Sr., early in life displayed the energy and ambition which brought him such marked success later in life. At the age of fifteen, not being satisfied with the home in which the family was living, he went into the forest, cleared away the timber, cut and hewed the logs and erected a new home, which was occupied by the family for over half a century. He then proceeded to clear a place and erected a home for himself, and on its completion he married and brought his bride to the new home. However, after a few years, he built what was considered an exceptionally fine house in those days. His was an active life, spent in work of great benefit to his fellow men. Very devout in his religious life, he was a pillar and charter member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Fort Branch, in which town he spent his declining years. He took quite an interest in educational matters, his children receiving the best that could be secured in the schools of those early days.

To Samuel H. West, Sr., and wife were born eight children, namely: Louisa, who married N. H. Dorsey, of Oakland City, Gibson county, Indiana, is deceased; W. L. is referred to elsewhere in this volume; J. A. is engaged in the banking business in Antioch, California; Elzie died in infancy; Mary is the widow of P. A. Bryant and lives in Fort Branch; Isabelle married C. F. Gilbert and lives in Cleveland, Ohio; Samuel H.; Susan married W. A. Baldwin and lives at Winona Lake, Indiana.

The subject of this sketch passed his boyhood days on the home place, attending the short terms of the district school and devoting the remainder of his time to helping in the work of the farm. On September 2, 1878, Mr. West was united in the holy bonds of matrimony to Martha A. Cooper, daughter of William Cooper, an early settler in Gibson county. To this union were born four children, as follows: Bertram C., who lives in Oakland, California; one died in infancy; J. A. died when two years old; Ruth is now living in California. The subject's first wife died in March, 1896, and after her death Mr. West gave up farming and removed to Fort Branch, where, in partnership with his brothers, he organized a private bank. This institution was conducted on the basis of a private bank for about four years, and in 1900 it was merged into a state bank, it continuing as such for eight years, when it was reorganized as a national bank. The original name of the



Farmers and Merchants Bank has been continued with the addition of "National." A recent statement shows the resources and liabilities each to equal two hundred and twenty-five to two hundred and forty thousand dollars. The present officers are: S. H. West, president; Gerhard Sollman, vice-president, and H. G. Graper, cashier.

Mr. West has sold the original home and has also done a great deal of trading in real estate. When he left his farm in 1896 it was considered one of the best equipped farms in the community, it being well stocked with fine live stock, short-horn cattle being specialized in, while immense crops of corn and wheat were annually harvested.

Fraternally, Mr. West is a member of the Masonic blue lodge, and he has also been through the chairs in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

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#### FRED D. LUHRING.

There is no one nation that has contributed to the complex composition of our American social fabric an element of more sterling worth or of greater value in fostering and supporting our national institutions than has Germany. The fatherland has given us men of sturdy integrity, indomitable perseverance, high intelligence and much business sagacity—the result being the incorporation of a firm and strength-giving fiber, ramifying through warp and woof. A man who may look well with pride upon his German ancestry is the subject of this review, who is a native of Gibson county, where he has passed practically his entire life, attaining a success worthy the name, with the accompanying and resulting confidence and regard of his fellow men.

Fred D. Luhring was born October 6, 1849, in Johnson township, Gibson county, Indiana, the son of Louis and Louisa (Stinkle) Luhring, natives of Hanover, Germany, the former born December 15, 1810, died July 18, 1867; the mother was born January 25, 1810, and died March 24, 1903. The subject's maternal grandfather emigrated to America and located in Gibson county at an early date. Louis Luhring crossed the broad Atlantic to the new world when he was a young man, and, having early learned the trade of blacksmithing, he worked at that vocation for a while in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, coming to the Hoosier state and locating in Gibson county some years previous to the subject's birth. The father met an untimely death at the age of fifty-six years, being kicked by a mule, he following the work of blacksmithing in addition to his agricultural duties.

Of a family of six children, five of whom are now living, the subject was the fourth in order of birth. His early youth was occupied with his many duties on the home farm, he attending the short terms of the schools of those days. Following his graduation from the common branches, he taught for two terms, and then served an apprenticeship to the carpenter trade, which he fully mastered and followed for a number of years.

On May 17, 1885, Mr. Luhring was united in the holy bonds of matrimony to Caroline M. Smith, of Barton township, Gibson county, daughter of Charles and Caroline Smith, natives of Germany. Her father was born September 6, 1824, and died February 7, 1868; the mother born November 24, 1824, died November 25, 1872. This union has been blessed by the birth of three children, namely: Clydia is deceased; F. C. is a telegraph operator in the employ of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company; Curtis E. is at Princeton, where he is agent for the traction company. For a short period after his marriage the subject of this sketch engaged in contracting, building a number of houses, but in 1895 he opened a shop and started in the implement business, which he has continued until the present time, enjoying a large patronage and having established a reputation for integrity and fairness in his business dealings which has not only aided him in material ways, but has gained for him a large and ever-widening circle of admiring friends. The location of his place of business is one of the very best in the town of Haubstadt and his stock of goods is of the best standard lines, he having the agency for the International Harvester Company. Besides his mercantile interests, the subject is interested in the Bank of Haubstadt, of which institution he is a director.

Aside from six years' service in the responsible office of township trustee, Mr. Luhring has refused political honors, content to limit his interest in such things to voting for those best qualified. In all the walks of life the subject has won a reputation for honesty, integrity and public spirit of which any man might well be proud.

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#### S. R. LOCKWOOD.

An enumeration of the representative citizens of Gibson county would be incomplete without specific mention of the well known and popular gentleman whose name introduces this sketch. A member of one of the old and highly respected families of the community and for many years a public-spirited man of affairs, he has stamped the impress of his individuality upon the township and county in which he resides and added luster to the honor-

able name which he bears, having always been scrupulously honest in all his relations with his fellow men and leaving no stone unturned whereby he might benefit his own condition as well as that of his neighbors, consequently he has long ago won the favor of the people of the township of which he is the efficient trustee.

S. R. Lockwood was born in Evansville, Indiana, October 1, 1867, the son of John Lockwood and Josephine (Earl) Lockwood, he a native of Gibson county and she of Vanderburg county. The father of John Lockwood was Edwin Lockwood, a pioneer of Gibson county, who settled in the virgin forest near Fort Branch and hewed a home out of the wilderness. He continued farming all his life, except for a time when he engaged in the saw mill business and another period was keeper of a store in Evansville, Indiana. He died at the age of seventy.

John Lockwood enlisted in the Union army at the outbreak of the Civil war, being mustered into Company A, Forty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He served throughout the war and was in a number of the most important engagements, among others being the memorable struggle at Missionary Ridge. He was honorably discharged as a corporal at Rome, Georgia, in July, 1865. On his return home from his country's service he married Josephine Earl, who was born in Vanderburg county, Indiana, near Evansville, the daughter of Robert and Sarah Earl, early settlers, they having come to Vanderburg county down the Ohio river in a flatboat. To this union two children were born, the father dying in 1872, and the mother subsequently married James Lockwood, a cousin of her first husband. James Lockwood was a prominent and successful farmer of his community. He died in May, 1898, and the mother is now residing with the subject, enjoying excellent health and displaying the vigor and appearance of a woman of forty. Her ancestors were of English and Irish stock, the Earls being English and the McCutcheons, on the maternal side, Irish.

S. R. Lockwood passed his boyhood days on the farm, attending the common schools at Fort Branch, also graduating from the high school. On arriving at mature age he purchased a part of his step-father's farm, on which he lived forty-seven years, continuing the active life of an agriculturist until 1898, when he rented his place and removed to Fort Branch. In 1908 he was elected township trustee, and is now serving the last year of a six-year term.

In September, 1898, S. R. Lockwood was married to Anna Patten, of Gibson county, the daughter of James C. Patten, M. D., one of the leading citizens of the community, highly respected for his successful career as a physician and for his splendid record as a soldier in the dark days of the Civil

war. To Mr. and Mrs. Lockwood were born three children: Earle died in infancy, Mark is in school, and Lewis.

Fraternally, the subject is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. His religious affiliation is with the Methodist Episcopal church at Ft. Branch. Politically, he has always been a staunch Republican and served four years as town clerk of Ft. Branch. He built his present fine home in 1911 at the corner of Lincoln and Locust streets.

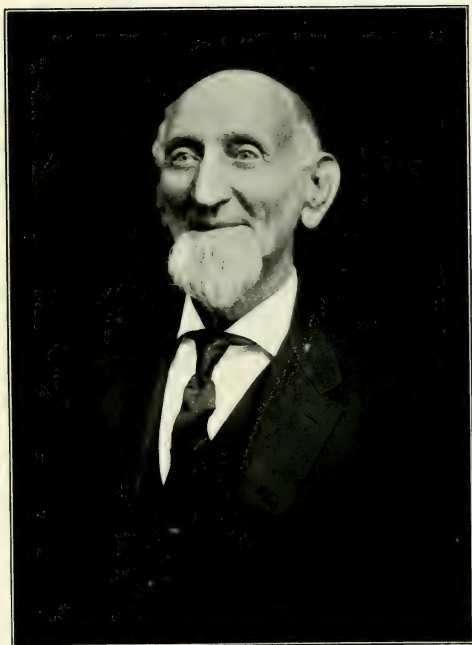
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*add*  
J. C. KIMBALL.

In the anxious and laborious struggle for an honorable competency and solid career on the part of the average business man fighting the every-day battles of life, there is but little to attract the idle reader in search of a sensational chapter; but for a mind fully awake to the reality and meaning of human existence there are noble and immortal lessons in the life of the man who, without other means than a clear mind, a strong arm and a true heart, conquers fortune and gains not only temporal rewards for his toil, but also that which is greater and higher, the respect and confidence of those with whom his years of active life have placed him in contact.

J. C. Kimball was born April 1, 1831, at Cynthiana, Posey county, Indiana, the son of Elisha and Mary (Boyle) Kimball. Elisha Kimball was a skilled mechanic and was the inventor of successful improvements on the cotton gin, he, however, dying before he could reap the pecuniary benefits of his work. He was a man of high order of intellect and stood well in the respect and admiration of his fellow men. Besides the subject, there was born to Elisha and Mary Kimball one other child, William, now deceased, who was a soldier in the Civil war.

J. C. Kimball spent his boyhood at home with his parents until he reached the age of twenty years, when he struck out for himself and came to Gibson county by four-horse stage from Evansville, and established himself in the hardware business, which line he was engaged in up to the time of his retirement in 1905, a period of fifty-four years. In connection with general hardware, the subject handled stoves, tinware and agricultural implements, and his clean-cut and above-board business methods and his genial personality won for him not only a large patronage, but gained for him a wide circle of friends. He was a tinner during all his active years.



J. C. KIMBALL.



In 1862 Mr. Kimball was commissioned first lieutenant in Company A, Eightieth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and his command was a part of the Army of the Cumberland. Mr. Kimball was under fire in a number of engagements, notably the battle of Perryville. Ill health caused his resignation from the army.

In October, 1855, J. C. Kimball was united in the holy bonds of matrimony to Amanda E. Johnson, of Evansville, and this union was blessed by the birth of two children, Newton, who died young, and Ella C., now deceased, who married Dr. W. H. McGee and was the mother of one child, Edith. Mr. Kimball's wife passed to her reward July 19, 1907.

The Grand Army of the Republic has claimed the membership of Mr. Kimball for many years, and, fraternally, he belongs to the Masonic lodge, having been a charter member of the lodge of that order at Princeton. He is also a member of the Presbyterian church. Although never having been a seeker after public office, Mr. Kimball has ever given his earnest and active support to the Republican party.

At the present time the subject of this review is retired and lives in his comfortable and hospitable home at No. 219 East State street in Princeton, peacefully enjoying the well deserved rest which he has earned by a life well spent in strenuous and honorable pursuits. In the slowly dimming twilight of life's day, Mr. Kimball can rest content and serene, confident that to him the Master will say, "Well, done, thou good and faithful servant."

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### WILLIAM J. LOWE.

Perseverance and sterling worth are almost always sure to win conspicuous recognition in all localities. William J. Lowe, for three-quarters of a century a resident of Gibson county, affords a fine example of a successful, self-made man, who is not only eminently deserving of the confidence reposed in him by his fellow citizens, but also possesses the necessary energy and integrity that fit him to discharge the duties of any responsibility with which he may be entrusted. A man of vigorous mentality and strong moral fiber, he has achieved a signal success in the battle of life.

William J. Lowe was born December 17, 1844, two and one-half miles west of Fort Branch, Gibson county, Indiana, the son of Littleton and Patience (Allen) Lowe. Littleton Lowe was born in Kentucky in 1812 and

came with his parents to Mt. Vernon, Indiana, when he was a boy of twelve, they settling in the woods, where they wrested a home from the wilderness and lived the rest of their days.

Littleton Lowe, on the death of his parents, settled two and one-half miles west of Fort Branch, in Gibson county, where he secured one hundred and sixty acres of land, he clearing forty acres and building a home. Here he continued until 1865, when he removed to Fort Branch, where he spent his remaining days, his death occurring in his seventy-fourth year, his wife dying at the age of sixty-three. He was a Democrat and a member of the Baptist church. In connection with farming, he also was the owner of a store for a number of years. To Littleton Lowe and wife were born ten children, namely: Melinda married L. T. Mead and lived in Exeter, Nebraska, both now being deceased; Howard, who was in the piano business at Cynthiana, Indiana, died in 1907; Mary, deceased, was the wife of John Wells and lived five miles east of Fort Branch; Nancy married George W. Stone, of Owensville, Indiana; Lavina, who is deceased, married John Jones and lived at Fort Branch; Ella, deceased, was the wife of B. Ewing and lived in Lincoln, Nebraska; William J.; Susan, deceased, was the wife of Henry Montgomery and lived near Fort Branch; Martha is the widow of William Sweazy, of Helena, Montana; George W. is in the barber business at Los Angeles, California.

A typical pioneer school house was the one attended by the subject in his youth. The old Robb school was two miles through the woods from his home, and it had the puncheon seats and primitive appliances so well remembered by our fathers. Mr. Lowe remained at home assisting in the farm work until the Civil war broke out, when, on January 17, 1865, he enlisted in Company H, One Hundred and Forty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry, at Haubstadt. During his term of service he was actively engaged, at times on provost duty, with the army in eastern Tennessee, and on the cessation of hostilities he returned to Indianapolis with his comrades and was mustered out in October, 1865.

After the close of the Civil war Mr. Lowe engaged in farming two miles from Owensville, in Montgomery township, for four years and then removed to Fort Branch. He bought eighty acres five miles east of Fort Branch in Patoka township and lived there for about eight years, when he secured a tract of ninety-one acres (now a part of Fort Branch) and resided on it for five years. For seven years the subject engaged in the furniture and undertaking business at Fort Branch, and in 1892 he located in Princeton,



entering into partnership with A. W. Lagow, under the firm name of Lagow & Lowe, furniture and undertaking being the line of business. This partnership continued for about a year, when C. A. Scull was admitted to the firm and at the end of another year the business was divided, the subject taking charge of the undertaking department, but in 1908 Mr. Lowe sold his interests. In 1907 Mr. Lowe established a furniture and undertaking business at Huntingburg, Indiana, which he still controls, and he is the owner of the livery stable and morgue on East Broadway in Princeton, as well as his own home.

On March 15, 1866, Mr. Lowe was united in matrimony to Betsy J. Pritchett, who was born two miles east of Owensville, the daughter of John and Mary Pritchett, who were pioneers in this county. They engaged in farming all their lives and are both now deceased.

To Mr. and Mrs. Lowe have been born the following children: Alvis, who is a motorman in Evansville, Indiana, married Nellie Schull; Ezra, an undertaker at Evansville, married Sadie Walters; Anna May is the wife of W. E. Stillwell, an attorney at Evansville, Indiana; John E. is the owner of a cigar store in Denver, Colorado, and married Marjorie Younger; Ada Catherine is the wife of John W. Brownlee, of Munfordsville, Kentucky.

Mr. Lowe is a member of Archer Post No. 28, Grand Army of the Republic, at Princeton, and is also a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Fraternally, he belongs to the Masonic fraternity, up to the Knight Templar degree, being also affiliated with the Order of the Eastern Star, while he is a charter member of the Tribe of Ben-Hur.

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### W. J. RITTERSKAMP.

In his special line of effort probably no man in southern Indiana has achieved a more pronounced success nor a larger record than William J. Ritterskamp, who is not only a market gardener of large importance, but is also a noted florist. Starting in a modest way, he has so conducted his affairs as to enjoy a steady and healthy growth through the years, until now the interests with which he is identified are numbered among the most important enterprises in Gibson county. Because of the eminent success which he has achieved, Mr. Ritterskamp has gained a reputation which extends far beyond the borders of his own locality. His life has been one of untiring activity, and has been crowned with the degree of success attained by those

only who devote themselves indefatigably to the work before them. He is of the high class of business men, and none more than he deserves a fitting recognition among the men whose genius and ability have achieved results that are most enviable and commendable, and because of his splendid record and his high personal qualities, he is eminently deserving of representation in the annals of this county.

William J. Ritterskamp was born in 1867 at Freelandville, Knox county, Indiana, and is the son of William and Louise (Heithecker) Ritterskamp, both of whom were natives of Germany, the father born near Ebberfeldt and the mother at Minder. In 1844 William Ritterskamp came with his parents, John and Louisa (Kircher) Ritterskamp, from their native country to America, locating at once in Knox county, Indiana. Here the parents first obtained a farm and later went into the merchandise business, in which they were successful. Both died in that county. They were the parents of eight children, namely: Henrietta, who became the wife of Henry Stahlschodt, of Evansville, Indiana; Bertha, the wife of Fred Nothing, of Riverside, California; Julia, the wife of Daniel W. Becker, of Evansville, Indiana; Louisa, the wife of Samuel H. Kixmiller, of Freelandville, Indiana; Alvina, the wife of William S. Pielmeier, of Chelsea, Michigan; Martha, the wife of H. E. Schroeder, of Freelandville, Indiana; John E., a retired farmer of Freelandville, and William, father of the subject of this sketch. William Ritterskamp received his education in the common schools, and upon attaining mature years became connected in the mercantile business with William Rahn at Evansville, Indiana. Several years later he joined the firm of McCord & Company at Vincennes, this state, and then engaged in the mercantile business at Freelandville, where he was engaged for thirty-three years. He is now retired from active business pursuits and is living at Princeton. His wife died in 1872, and subsequently he married Wilhemia Heinz, of Germany. To his first marriage were born the following children: William John, the immediate subject of this sketch; Julius H., who died in Colorado in 1912, was a merchant and saw-mill man in Knox county, but went to Colorado in 1908, and engaged in the shoe business in Colorado Springs. Eventually he sold out and, buying a tract of land at Alamosa, Colorado, engaged in dry farming. He married Christina Volle, and to them were born six children, namely: Lena, Walter, Oscar, Paul, Helen and Laura. This family now lives at Freelandville, Indiana. Emma Ritterskamp died in infancy. Laura became the wife of H. S. Pielmeier, a merchant at Freelandville, and they have two children, Helwig and Irene. Louise mar-

ried Roscoe Hill, professor in the high school at Colorado Springs, Colorado. They have two children, Max and Louisa. Helen is the wife of Theodore Osborne, of Oaktown, Indiana. Julia is the wife of Albert A. Faller, a merchant at Bicknell, Indiana, and they have two children, Joseph and Louisa. Godfried, who graduated from the Indiana State University, taught German in the Vincennes high school, and is now connected with the *Tribune* at Chicago. Gertrude is at home. William Ritterskamp is a staunch supporter of the Democratic party, and while a resident of Knox county served as township trustee. Religiously, he is a member of the Evangelical church.

William J. Ritterskamp received a good common school education and later was a student at Elmhurst College. After completing his education he became identified with his father in the mercantile business until 1891, when he took up farming on reclaimed marsh land near Freelandville, which engaged his attention until 1897, when he came to Princeton and there engaged in the business of raising flowers. The story of the inception, rise and development of the business thus started by Mr. Ritterskamp reads more like romance than history. It is the story of a persistent fight against innumerable obstacles, which would have daunted one of less sterling metal, and deserves the splendid success which has crowned his efforts. Upon coming to Princeton, Mr. Ritterskamp built a greenhouse, which he kept up with the help of one man a part of the time. His first effort was successful, and he added to the original plant from time to time, including the Shannon greenhouses, the glass structures from the Martin Meyer gardens and smaller plants around Princeton, but the period of most rapid growth of the greenhouses dates from about seven years ago, when Mr. Ritterskamp bought several hundred hot-bed sites from discouraged Patoka cantaloupe growers, which he erected into cold houses at his gardens. A year later he transformed them into hot houses, steam-heated, and from that time on his success was assured. In 1909 the business was incorporated under the name of the Princeton Gardens, all of the stock being owned by Mr. Ritterskamp and members of his family, and today the Princeton Gardens, or, as commonly known, the Ritterskamp Gardens, are one of the most important industries in this locality. During the busy season more than one hundred people are regularly employed and at other times the average number of employes is about fifty, many of whom are expert and competent horticulturists and floriculturists. Today the plant embraces about forty thousand square feet of glass, thirteen hot houses and six hundred square feet of hot beds, heated mostly by hot water and steam. Two years ago new, modern structures

with concrete walls, steel gutters and steel truss construction were erected for the culture of roses, and to give more room for the better development of carnation growing, and for this plant a modern steam boiler was installed. Three years ago Mr. Ritterskamp bought a tract of muck land and sand land, located about five miles southwest of Princeton and known as the Pittman farm. He at once put ten acres out to celery, which, however, was not a success the first year, though by subsequent efforts and the expenditure of money for drainage, fertilizers and other manipulations, he has proven that celery, onions, potatoes, cabbage and head lettuce can be successfully grown here. At present the trucking area, fruits, vegetables and plants, covers about one hundred and forty acres, much of the land producing two crops, and, in some instances, three crops. Many car-loads of bunch vegetables are sent to the Chicago market, and the gardens are widely known throughout the Middle West for quality of the products.

Mr. Ritterskamp has long been regarded as one of the foremost men of the country in various branches of gardening, and his services are in constant demand for instructive addresses before bodies of this character. In 1907 Mr. Ritterskamp, with eight others, signed a paper asking for a mass convention of vegetable growers and gardeners, for the purpose of forming an association, the result being that in October, of that year, at Cleveland, Ohio, the Greenhouse Vegetable Growers' and Market Gardeners' Association of America was organized. It has been a very successful association, starting with sixty-nine members and growing to the present membership of over four hundred. From the time of its organization, Mr. Ritterskamp was a member of the executive board, and in October, 1913, at the convention of the association held at Toledo, Ohio, he was elected president and is now serving in that capacity. The honor which came to Mr. Ritterskamp was a pleasant surprise, as he was not a candidate and had no intimation that he was to be made the head of this international organization. However, it was the desire of the convention that a man be named who not only knew the theoretical side of gardening, but who knew virtually every phase of it from the standpoint of practical experience. From his addresses and statements of practical experiences made at various gatherings over the country, his fellow members of his association decided that he was the man they wanted for the place, and he accepted the honor.

Aside from his floriculture and horticulture, Mr. Ritterskamp has turned his attention to other lines of effort and four years ago purchased the fruit in more than three hundred acres of orchards, in the handling of which he

realized a substantial profit. Mr. Ritterskamp generously refuses to take more than his share of the credit of the building up of this big business, saying that the credit belongs to all the members of his family, who have been tireless and unceasing in their efforts toward the building up of the enterprise. Among others who have been faithful and efficient assistants of Mr. Ritterskamp mention should be made of James T. Harman, of Perry county, this state, who has been with Mr. Ritterskamp for nine years, A. A. Smith, of Springfield, Illinois, Ed. Weisgarber, who has special charge of the Lotus Celery Gardens, west of Princeton.

In 1889 William Ritter-skamp was married to Louisa A. Pielmeier, of Freelandville, Indiana, the daughter of William and Fredericka Pielmeier, both of whom were natives of Germany, and early settlers at Vincennes, Indiana. Later they took up farming, which they followed for many years, but the father is now retired and is living at Freelandville, Indiana. To Mr. and Mrs. Ritterskamp have been born the following children: Gilbert, who married Charlotte Rosenbaum, of near Peoria, Illinois. After completing his common school education, he entered Purdue University, where he pursued the horticultural course, and also took a business course at Evansville, Indiana. He is closely associated with his father in his business. Edna is at home with her parents.

Fraternally, Mr. Ritterskamp is an appreciative member of the Free and Accepted Masons, belonging to the blue lodge at Princeton, while religiously he is a member of the First Presbyterian church. A man of high moral character and impeachable integrity, persistent industry and excellent judgment, he has stood for the best things, and throughout the community he occupies an enviable position in the esteem of his fellow men.

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#### DAVID ARCHER.

The biographies of enterprising men, especially of good men, are instructive as guides and incentives to others. The examples they furnish of patient purpose and steadfast integrity strongly illustrate what is in the power of each to accomplish. Some men belong to no exclusive class in life, apparently insurmountable obstacles have in many instances awakened their dormant faculties and served as a stimulus to carry them to ultimate success, if not renown. The instances of success in the face of adverse fate would seem almost to justify the conclusion that self-reliance, with a half

chance, can accomplish any object. The life of David Archer, long a well-known and successful business man of Princeton and now gone to his reward, is an example in point, for, by his individual efforts and close adherence to duty, he overcame the obstacles encountered on the highway of life and at the same time won a reputation for right living among his fellow men.

David Archer was born in 1816, the son of Thomas and Mary (McCalla) Archer, on the old Archer place, north of Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, and died February 20, 1894, in the city of Princeton, that county.

Thomas Archer, the subject's father, a native of South Carolina, early in life located on a farm in Patoka township, two miles north of Princeton, Gibson county. He obtained one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he cleared and made a home, where he spent most of his days, engaged in general farming and stock raising. In later life he sold his farm and bought six acres north of Princeton, but his death occurred on the old home place. The early ancestral history of the Archer family is referred to more fully in another portion of this work in the biography of Samuel Hugh Archer, to which the reader is referred.

David Archer received his early education in the common schools of the district and as a young man was engaged in business with his brother, Samuel M., of Princeton, later being associated in the clothing business for several years with A. E. Crow and having a number of other commercial interests. In 1847 he purchased the property at the corner of Broadway and South Gibson street in Princeton and erected a residence, later acquiring the property at No. 317 East Broadway, where he and his sister lived.

Mr. Archer married Martha McCalla, who was born in 1823 and died February 20, 1894, Mr. Archer passing to his reward June 2, 1883. Martha McCalla was born in the Chester district of South Carolina, the daughter of Thomas and Sarah Wayne (Gardner) McCalla. David McCalla, a brother of the subject's wife, married Elizabeth Harbison.

Thomas McCalla, the grandfather of Mrs. Archer, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, being a member of the Pennsylvania troops in that struggle, he afterward being pensioned by the government for his services.

To the subject and wife were born three children, namely: Beza was born in Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, January 26, 1849, where he now resides and has business interests; Mary Elizabeth was born in Gibson county and has always lived at home, now residing with her brother Beza; Isabella died in 1863. All of the subject's children received a good education in the schools of Princeton. Beza is a member of the Sons of the American Revolution.

## ROBERT MILTON MUNFORD.

It will always be a mark of distinction to have served in the Federal army during the great Civil war between the states. The old soldier will receive attention no matter where he goes if he will but make himself known, particularly if he puts on his old faded uniform. And when he passes away, which the last of them must do within a few years, most of them having already lived out their allotted three score and ten, according to the Psalmist, friends will pay him suitable eulogy for the sacrifices he made fifty years ago on the field or in the no-less-dreaded prison or hospital. And ever afterward his descendants will revere his memory and take pride in recounting his services for his country in its hour of peril.

Robert Milton Munford was born two miles northwest of Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, on September 21, 1832, the son of John and Mary Nixon (Archer) Munford, the former born in 1796, and the latter in 1800. They were natives of the Chester district, in South Carolina. John Munford was a son of James Munford, also of Chester district, who was descended from good old Scotch-Irish stock. John Munford came to Gibson county, Indiana, about 1815, a single man, and here obtained, first, a sixty-acre tract of government land, and later another tract of one hundred acres, two miles northwest of Princeton. It was all wild land, covered with a dense growth of timber, and to the clearing of this land and the creation of a farm he gave his remaining years, being successful in his enterprise and gaining the esteem and confidence of the community. His death occurred there on October 26, 1862. He was survived many years by his widow, who died in 1884. In addition to farming Mr. Munford was also an expert carpenter and was frequently called upon to do work of this kind for his neighbors. He was a Whig in his political views, but upon the organization of the Republican party he became allied with that organization. He was at one time a member of the Reform Presbyterian church, and later became a member of the United Presbyterian church. He and his wife were the parents of nine children, namely: James Riley, a farmer, married Ella Little, and both are deceased. Thomas Harvey, deceased, married Louise Embree. William Archer, now deceased, who was a farmer and trustee of Patoka township, and lived his later years in Princeton. Jane was the wife of John Mauck, and both are now deceased. Mary, who never married, died in 1905. Robert Milton is the immediate subject of this sketch. Samuel E., who was educated in the home schools, studied medicine, graduated from the Medical College of



Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1861, came to Gibson county and here enlisted for three months' service, but did not go to the field. He then enlisted as a private in Company H, Seventeenth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, but was appointed hospital steward, and later assistant surgeon and still later surgeon of the regiment. Eventually he became medical director of the division of which his regiment was a part, and served in this capacity until the close of the war. After the war he returned to Princeton and took up the active practice of medicine, in which he was eminently successful. He died in 1893. He married Mina Stoneberger, who still resides in Princeton. Doctor Munford was prominent in many ways in his community and he was loved by all who knew him. Alexander McLeod, the youngest child born to John and Mary Munford, was a member of Company A, Eightieth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was wounded in 1864 at the battle of Resaca, dying in Louisville.

Robert M. Munford had but little opportunity to attend school, such education as he had being obtained in the old log school, near his home. He remained with his parents until his marriage in 1856, when he took up farming operations on his own account, following this line of effort until 1861, when he enlisted as a private in Company D, Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, in Princeton, this regiment being assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. However, on account of his father's death and the fact that four of the sons were in the army, he came home in February, 1863, to take care of the home. Enlisting as private, he had been promoted to the position of hospital steward, in which he rendered efficient service. After his return from the war he located on the old homestead, where he resided continuously until the winter of 1899, when he relinquished active labor and removed to Princeton, where he has since resided. He still owns eighty acres of the old homestead, in the operation of which he has been very successful during his active years.

In 1856 Mr. Munford married Nancy J. Finney, a native of Gibson county, Indiana, the daughter of John K. and Lourena Finney. Their parents were natives of South Carolina, coming to Gibson county in the early days, locating in Patoka township. Mr. Finney was a railroad contractor and farmer, and was very successful in his affairs. He and his wife both died in this county. Mrs. Munford died on February 2, 1902, without issue.

Politically, Mr. Munford has always given ardent support to the Republican party, and has taken an intelligent interest in all local affairs, especially such as promise to be of material benefit to the community and his



fellow citizens. Fraternally, he has been a member of Archer Post No. 28, Grand Army of the Republic, at Princeton, Indiana, for many years, and from the age of eighteen years has been an earnest and active member of the United Presbyterian church. He is a man of sterling qualities of character, even tempered, and scrupulously honest in all the relations of life, hospitable and charitable, and thus he has gained the approval and high esteem of all his fellow citizens because of his upright life.

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### CALVIN R. HOWE.

The man whose life now comes before the reader for review is too well and widely known and universally loved and respected for the biographer to attempt to add anything to the well-known story of his long and interesting life. Calvin R. Howe enjoys the unique distinction of being the oldest male white child born in Gibson county, Indiana, having first seen the light of day October 25, 1827, at a time when the broad acres of this fertile county were for the most part virgin timber and soil, the settlements small and far between and the beautiful homes, cities and well cultivated farms of today not even a wild dream in the minds of its earliest pioneers. The father of Calvin R. Howe was Willis Howe, born in Boone county, near Pinhook, Covington, Kentucky, and he in turn was the son of Robert and Elizabeth (McCombs) Howe. Robert Howe, with his wife, eight sons and two daughters, came to Gibson county, Indiana, in 1819 and settled in White River township. He obtained a tract of wild land, which he cleared and there they made their home for a number of years. He was always engaged in farming. In later life he moved to Lawrence county, Illinois, and there he died. His wife died in Knox county. The names of their children follow: James, William, John, Willis (subject's father), Benjamin, Sanford, Samuel, Jackson, Lucinda, Jane and Mary.

The opportunities for the education of the young were very meager during the youth of Willis Howe and he received only a very limited education. He early was apprenticed to the blacksmith trade in Princeton and later bought the business of William Ralston and continued to operate that shop until his death in 1886, at the age of eighty-three years. He was quite skilled in his trade and an expert workman on edged tools. His reputation brought him business from Posey, Pike and Gibson counties and he prospered financially. He was one of the few men in this locality in his day who had

money to loan and was well known and highly respected all over the county. He took an active interest in politics and was elected county treasurer about the year 1834; he was also justice of the peace for many years. He was a member of the old Whig party and when the Republican party came into existence he gave it his support. Two of his brothers, Benjamin and Samuel, were tanners by trade, Sanford and Jackson were blacksmiths and the rest of the boys were farmers. Willis Howe took as his wife Mary Minnis, who was born in South Carolina, a daughter of Calvin and Mary Minnis. Her parents were born in Ireland, emigrated to America and settled in South Carolina, coming to Indiana in 1811. They reached their destination the day of the battle of Tippecanoe and in three weeks he was compelled to join the militia to go to the relief of Fort Harrison, but he only got as far as Vincennes, where he remained three weeks. His family, alone and doubtless suffering greatly through his absence, lived in their wagon until his return. During his absence they saw only one white man. Mr. Minnis settled in Gibson county near Stormont Hill and later lived one and one-half miles northwest of Princeton, where he continued farming. He and his wife died in Princeton between the years 1850 and 1860. They had only twin daughters, Mary, the subject's mother, and Jane, who became the wife of John W. Wood, and both are deceased. Willis Howe was a faithful member of the Methodist church and his wife of the Reformed Presbyterian. She died in 1879, at the age of seventy-three years.

Calvin R. Howe received his early instruction in the subscription schools of the day. At the age of twelve years he was studying Latin and was receiving instruction in Greek at the age of seventeen. He entered his father's blacksmith shop with the intention of mastering the trade and remained with him until his twenty-first year. At the age of twenty-two he went to Owensville, Indiana, where, in partnership with Timothy Technor, he opened up a blacksmith shop. This partnership continued for two years, at which time they sold out and the subject and his father handled dry goods for two years. In 1856 Mr. Howe decided to settle down to farming and located one and one-half miles south of Princeton, where he continued for ten years, when he went to Salina county, Kansas, in 1866. However, he remained there only a few months and returned to Gibson county, locating one mile west of Princeton, where he remained for twenty-seven years, and for the past twenty years he has made his home in Princeton, practically retired from active life. He still owns ninety-seven acres of valuable land in section 12, Patoka township.

On November 18, 1852, Mr. Howe was united in marriage with Elizabeth J. Yerkes, who was born in 1833 near Homestead, Pennsylvania, a daughter of Jacob Paul and Huldah (Skinner) Yerkes, he of Pennsylvania and she of New York state. In 1836 the Yerkes family came to Evansville, where the father died the same year. The wife moved to Owensville, Indiana, where she reared her family and lived for a number of years, and died in Vanderburg county, Indiana, at the home of her oldest daughter, Mrs. G. B. McCutcheon. Mr. Yerkes was a carpenter by trade and the family were members of the Presbyterian church. There were ten children in the family, as follows: Amelia, Jonathan, Reuben, Harriet, Margaret, Charlotte, Anna, Culpurina, Elizabeth and Honora. The last three named are living; Culpurina is the wife of Dr. David Malone, of Arnsville, Illinois; Honora is the wife of L. H. Hawes and lives at Mt. Vernon, Illinois, and Elizabeth is the wife of the immediate subject of this sketch. To Calvin R. Howe and wife were born seven children, two of whom died in infancy. The ones which grew to maturity are: Mary H., deceased wife of J. P. Brown, of Patoka township. At her death, which occurred in 1910, she left two children, Charles Y., now attending dental college at Indianapolis, and Lewis, who has been attending Moores Hill College for the past two years. The second child of Calvin R. Howe and wife was Anna, who died single at the age of thirty-three years; Charles J., who was a teacher and was drowned in the Colorado river in 1880; Willis Paul studied law, was admitted to the bar, practiced three years and died in 1890, and the fifth child is Nellie, wife of Andrew P. Carey, a dairy farmer in Patoka township. They are the parents of four children, Laura, Grace, deceased, Paul and Mabel.

Mr. and Mrs. Howe have a family heirloom much prized, in the form of a Masonic apron originally owned by Mrs. Howe's father, who was a prominent Mason. The apron is of white satin, hand-painted with the various emblems of the order, and is over one hundred years old. It is carefully framed in order to best preserve it intact.

At the age of twenty years Mr. Howe joined the Sons of Temperance, and attributes his health and longevity, at least in part, to his abstaining from alcoholic beverages. Considering Mr. Howe's years, he is a man of remarkable activity and general vitality and gets about as well as a man very many years younger. His eyesight and hearing are unimpaired and he retains an excellent memory. Mr. and Mrs. Howe have been members of the Methodist Episcopal church for the last sixty-one years and have always taken an active interest in the affairs of the church. Mr. Howe's political

sympathies are with the Republican party and, although he has never aspired for office, he has always taken an active interest in the affairs of his party.

How futile to attempt to add anything to the salient and simple facts of this long and wholesome life. Surely it should be an inspiration to those on the threshold of life to see this demonstration of the fact that right principles of life and right habits of living conduce to that enviable state wherein "thy days may be long upon the land." Mr. Howe is well known from one end of Gibson county to the other and no citizen of that county is held in higher esteem.

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#### A. R. BURTON, M. D.

It is not always easy to discover and define the hidden forces that move a life of ceaseless activity and large professional success; little more can be done than to note their manifestation in the career of the individual under consideration. In view of this fact, the life of the distinguished physician and public-spirited man of affairs whose name appears above affords a striking example of well defined purpose, with the ability to make that purpose subserve not only his own ends but the good of his fellow men as well. He has long held distinctive prestige in a calling which requires for its basis sound mentality and intelligent discipline of a high order, supplemented by the rigid professional training and thorough mastery of technical knowledge, with the skill to apply the same, without which one cannot hope to rise above mediocrity in administering to human ills. In his chosen field of endeavor Dr. A. R. Burton has achieved success such as few attain and his present eminent standing among the medical men of his community is duly recognized and appreciated.

A. R. Burton was born in Gibson county, Indiana, April 26, 1859, the son of Basil and Lucinda (Kilpatrick) Burton, the father born November 10, 1835, in Winchester, Virginia, and the mother in Gibson county, Indiana, in 1836. Basil Burton was a farmer and he removed to Indiana in pioneer times, where he made a success of agriculture. When the Straight Line railroad was being built through the county he contracted to build five miles of roadbed, but the enterprise ruined him financially. The greater part of his life was spent at or near Francisco, his declining years being passed in the home of the subject, dying in 1901 at the home of his nephew, Dr. Hiram Burton, near Somerville, Indiana, his wife having preceded him to her reward in 1881 in Princeton.

To Bazil and Lucinda Burton were born four children, namely: George S. died in Montana; Bell married Dr. R. L. Broadwell, of Petersburg; Louis H., who lives in southern Illinois, is a contractor of tiling and ditching; A. R.

Mr. Burton attended the common schools of the district and Fort Branch and on the completion of this rudimentary education began reading medicine under the tutelage of V. T. West, of Princeton, in whose office he studied until the fall of 1879, at which time he entered the Medical College of Ohio, now the University of Cincinnati, where he spent three years preparing himself for the exacting duties of the medical profession. Graduating March 4, 1882, the Doctor located at Princeton, where he has since remained, his superior skill in his practice having obtained for him a wide reputation and established for him a most desirable and remunerative practice. For fifteen years Doctor Burton has been a member of the pension board, his term of service never having been interrupted by the changing administration of political parties.

A close student of the art of medicine, the subject keeps posted on all the latest discoveries in his profession. He belongs to the American Medical Association, served as secretary of the Gibson County Medical Association for ten years, and also was a member of the State Medical Association and for ten years served as secretary of the city and county board of health.

On August 10, 1883, the Doctor was united in matrimony to Margaret J. Fentriss, of Princeton, daughter of James H. and Johanna (Skinner) Fentriss, old residents of that city. The mother of the subject's wife was a native of Scotland, while the father was born in Gibson county. James H. Fentriss was a harness-maker by trade and served for years as a justice of the peace, also for four years holding the office of county recorder. Both parents of Mrs. Burton are now deceased.

To the subject and wife has been born one child, Blanche, who is living at home with her parents. She has gained favorable notice as a musician of high order and her services have been engaged at a number of the leading musical functions throughout the state, she rendering vocal and instrumental selections in a manner that has attracted wide notice among the critics and promises much for the future.

Doctor Burton is Democratic in his political belief, while, fraternally, he belongs to the Improved Order of Red Men, Knights of the Maccabees, Court of Honor, Tribe of Ben-Hur, Royal Arcanum and the Loyal Order of Moose, and he was formerly affiliated with the Fraternal Order of Eagles. He takes an active interest in the Presbyterian church, of which he is an earnest member.

## R. S. ANDERSON, M. D.

The unostentatious routine of private life, although of vast importance to the welfare of the community, has not figured to any extent in history. But the names of men who have distinguished themselves by the possession of those qualities which mainly contribute to the success of private life and to the public stability, and who have enjoyed the respect and confidence of those around them, should not be permitted to perish. Their examples are most valuable and their lives well worthy of consideration. Such are the thoughts that involuntarily come to mind when we take under review the career of such an honored individual as the gentleman whose name initiates this paragraph, who is numbered among the leading practitioners of the art of healing in Gibson county.

Robert S. Anderson, M. D., was born in Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, July 24, 1861, the son of William Anderson, Jr., and Nancy Louisa (Garrett) Anderson, he a native of Ireland and she of this county, the mother being a descendant of the Stormont family. The paternal grandfather, William Anderson, Sr., came from county Donegal, Ireland, to Gibson county in 1854 and located on land one mile south of Princeton, afterward purchasing a farm four miles south of the town. He reared a large family, and resided here until his death in the late seventies. His son, William, Jr., learned the trade of blacksmith, which he followed until 1875, when he took up agriculture, following it until his death, April 9, 1880. His wife died in 1900. To the subject's parents were born four children, namely: Lizzie A. is the widow of John A. Pfohl; Martha M. is the wife of David Birchfield, of Princeton; Fanny J. is the wife of John O. Hamilton, of Manhattan, Kansas, who is professor of physics in the State Agricultural College at that place; R. S.

R. S. Anderson secured his elementary education in the common schools. In preparation for the practice of the medical profession, he attended the University of Louisville (the old Kentucky College of Medicine), from which he graduated in 1884. In later years he took a course in the Polyclinic Institute at Chicago. On his graduation from the Louisville Medical College the subject engaged in the practice of his profession at Grove City, Christian county, Illinois, and continued there for eight years, at the expiration of which period he removed to Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, where he has since remained in the general practice of medicine and surgery.

Doctor Anderson was married at Grove City, Illinois, in 1888, to Lizzie



R. S. ANDERSON, M. D.





B. McCoy, of that place, and to this union has been born one child, Oscar M., born in 1895 and now in school.

In addition to a long and successful career as a general practitioner, the subject has served as city and county health officer for a number of years and for eighteen years has been local surgeon for the Southern and the Chicago & Eastern Illinois railroads. He is a member of the Gibson county, the state and the American medical associations, and also holds membership in the Association of American Railway Surgeons.

In his fraternal relations, Doctor Anderson is an enthusiastic believer in the tenets of the Masonic order, having attained to the thirty-second degree, belonging to the Scottish Rite consistory at Indianapolis and being a Knight Templar at Princeton. He has filled all the chairs in the local lodge and was chairman of the building committee and one of the trustees who had charge of the erection of the handsome new Masonic Temple at Princeton. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

The subject has ever displayed an active and intelligent interest in political affairs, formerly serving as treasurer of the Republican county committee, but during the last campaign he severed his connection with that body and joined the Progressives.

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### JAMES M. SCANTLIN.

Clearly defined purpose and consecutive effort in the affairs of life will inevitably result in the attaining of a due measure of success, but in following out the career of one who has attained success by his own efforts there comes into view the intrinsic individuality which made such accomplishment possible, and thus there is granted an objective incentive and inspiration, while at the same time there is enkindled a feeling of respect and admiration. The qualities which have made Mr. Scantlin one of the prominent and successful men of Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, have also brought him the esteem of his fellow townsmen, for his career has been one of well-directed energy, strong determination and honorable methods.

James M. Scantlin was born October 26, 1842, at Evansville, Indiana, the son of Thomas and Eleanor J. (Parvin) Scantlin. The mother was a descendant of Gen. Robert Evans, founder of the city of Evansville, near which place she was born in a log cabin. The father was born in Lexington,

Kentucky, and was engaged in the stove and tinware business at Evansville, Indiana, starting there in 1836 and continuing until his retirement in 1908. Thomas Scantlin, who was a prominent man and was highly esteemed in his community, died January 19, 1912, at the extreme age of ninety-eight, and his wife died four years previous to his demise. To the subject's parents were born nine children, of whom six are living, namely: Lavinia E. and Ethel are unmarried and reside in Evansville; Mrs. Julius Stewart, of Evansville; Mrs. Carrie Overman, of New York City; Thomas E., of Medford, Oregon; James M.

Thomas Scantlin, the subject's father, removed to Princeton about 1819, with his father, James Scantlin, who was a charter member of the First Methodist church of that city. The subject's grandfather settled on a farm south of Princeton and conducted a tin shop on his place, which is now the William Spore farm. The subject's father learned the trade of tinner there and started in business for himself in Evansville in 1836. In 1852 he came back to Princeton, however returning to Evansville in 1853.

James M. Scantlin, the immediate subject of this review, was educated in the schools of Evansville and Princeton and attended the old college on Seminary Hill. He graduated from the Evansville high school about 1858, but did not receive his diploma for nearly forty years. He was subsequently a student at the Indiana State University at Bloomington, and while there was made a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity. He began helping in his father's business when he was but fourteen years of age, and continued in this work, with only such interruptions as were caused by his school work, until the Civil war, when he enlisted in Company K, One Hundred and Thirty-sixth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, serving until 1864 and attaining the rank of corporal. On returning from the service of his country, he again resumed his connection with his father's business, and continued thus until 1894, when he removed to Princeton and established his present prosperous hardware store.

On June 7, 1869, Mr. Scantlin was married to Helen E. Wallace, born in the city of Princeton, a granddaughter of Alexander Devin. To this union has been born one daughter, Nora, who married Herbert R. Clarke, a railroad man of Aurora, Illinois. Herbert and Nora Clarke have two children, Helen R. and Gertrude E.

Mr. Scantlin is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and in politics gives his support to the Republican party, while in religious affairs he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he serves as a steward.

## SANFORD TRIPPET.

The record of the gentleman whose name introduces this article contains no exciting chapter of tragic events, but is replete with well-defined purpose which, carried to successful issue, have won for him an influential place in the ranks of his profession and high personal standing among his fellow citizens. His life work has been one of unceasing industry and perseverance, and the systematic and honorable methods which he has ever followed have resulted not only in gaining the confidence of those with whom he has had dealings, but also in the building up of a large and remunerative legal practice. Well grounded in the principles of jurisprudence, and by instinct and habit a constant reader and student, Mr. Trippet commands the respect of his professional colleagues, and his career has reflected honor upon himself and dignity upon the vocation to which he has devoted his efforts.

Sanford Trippet was born November 13, 1875, in Gibson county, Indiana, the son of Aaron and Susan (Robb) Trippet, natives of this county. The mother was the oldest daughter of David Robb, one of the pioneers of the community and a nephew of Major David Robb, who fought at the battle of Tippecanoe. The father has passed his life in White River township, being a successful and progressive farmer, his wife still living. To Aaron and Susan Trippet have been born eleven children, all of whom yet survive. Aaron Trippet is at present a county councilman and is president of the board.

The subject of this review, after completing his preliminary studies in the common schools, attended the Princeton Normal School and then entered the Indiana State University at Bloomington, graduating with the literary class in 1901. Deciding on the legal profession as his life work, Mr. Trippet then matriculated in the law school at Ann Arbor, Michigan, from which he was subsequently graduated. Returning to Princeton, he entered into a partnership with Thomas Duncan for the practice of law, the firm name being Duncan & Trippet, this partnership existing for about a year, when, in 1905, the firm of Ballard & Trippet came into existence.

That same year, 1905, the subject was married to Edith M. Kightly, daughter of Charles and Eva (Gardner) Kightly, the father being a druggist in Oakland City, Indiana, until his death in 1913. To the subject and wife have been born three children, Blanche, Byron and Charles K.

In addition to his duties in the legal profession, Mr. Trippet for a num-

ber of years ranked high as an educator, he having taught school in Hazleton for five years and been principal of the schools there for three years, during which time his services were highly appreciated by the patrons, his progressive and intelligent pedagogical methods being a distinct boon to the educational institutions there.

Fraternally, Mr. Trippet is a member of Masonic Lodge No. 420, at Hazleton, in which he takes an earnest and active interest.

The home of the subject is located at No. 331 West Walnut street, in the city of Princeton, and it is the hospitable center of a wide circle of friends.

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### FRANKLIN H. MAXAM, M. D.

It is not always easy to discover and define the hidden forces that move a life of ceaseless activity and large professional success; little more can be done than to note their manifestation in the career of the individual under consideration. In view of this fact, the life of the successful physician and public-spirited man of affairs whose name appears above affords a striking example of well-defined purpose, with the ability to make that purpose subserve not only his own ends but the good of his fellow men as well. Doctor Maxam, who has had exceptional training in his chosen profession, holds distinctive prestige in a calling which requires for its basis sound mentality and intellectual discipline of a high order, supplemented by rigid professional training and thorough mastery of technical knowledge, with the skill to apply the same, without which one cannot hope to rise above mediocrity in ministering to human ills. There is, therefore, a due measure of satisfaction in presenting, even in brief resume, the life and achievements of such a man, and in preparing the following history of the scholarly physician whose name appears above it is with the hope that it may prove not only interesting and instructive, but also serve as an incentive to those who contemplate making the medical profession their life work.

Franklin H. Maxam was born February 14, 1850, in Gibson county, Indiana, about four miles east of Princeton. He is the son of Napoleon B. and Mary S. (Slack) Maxam, who were the parents of eight children. Two of the children and the parents are now dead. Napoleon B. Maxam was born and reared on a farm near Maxam Center, east of Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, the locality in which Sylvester Maxam, grandfather of the subject, settled when he came in the early days of Gibson county from his

old home in New York. Dating from those early days, the family has always been foremost in all things pertaining to the best good and welfare of the community at large. Mary S. Slack, mother of the subject, was a native of New Jersey, where her family had resided for many years. She was a granddaughter of Aaron Slack, a hero of the war of 1812.

Doctor Maxam received his elementary education in the common schools of Gibson county, later attending the Princeton high school and also the high school at Owensville, Indiana. He later attended the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, for one year. Upon his return to Princeton he took up the reading of medicine with Doctor Munford and Doctor West. He later on entered into a partnership with Doctor Munford, which partnership was in force for one year only. Wishing for more thorough training in his profession than could be obtained in his locality, he went to New York City, where he entered the Long Island College Hospital at Brooklyn, New York, where he remained for one year. Later he entered the Bellevue Hospital in New York City, from which he was graduated in 1877. He then returned to Princeton, where he took up the practice of his profession. This he continued for some time, when, desiring still greater advantages, he spent one year in Europe in the various famous hospitals of the continent. Most of his time was spent in Vienna, from the hospitals and laboratories of which have come forth so many things of benefit to suffering humanity. The fame of its surgeons, physicians and chemists has gone abroad through the world, so that post-graduate study in that city is a thing coveted by all who take up the profession of medicine as their life work. Upon his return from Europe, Doctor Maxam returned to his native Princeton, where he has since made his home, gaining an enviable reputation for himself and a warm place in the regard of his fellow townsmen. With a desire to still further equip himself in his profession, Doctor Maxam has, since entering upon the active practice, taken several post-graduate courses in New York City, embracing a combined period of several months.

In 1884 Doctor Maxam was united in marriage to Jane Howe, a resident of Princeton, daughter of Sanford Howe. She came from a family prominent in the affairs of the county. To this union were born two daughters, Ruth and Charlotte. Mrs. Maxam was a charming woman, of exceptional qualities of heart and mind and her beautiful influence traveled far beyond her home circle. She died July 16, 1913.

Doctor Maxam's religious affiliation is with the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he is a consistent member. He is a Republican of the old

school, interested in the workings of his party. He is an active member of the Gibson County Medical Society, the Indiana State Medical Society and the American Medical Association, in the proceedings of all of which he takes an interested part. Doctor Maxam has had remarkable success in his profession, and is often called into consultation by his professional brethren because of his ability as a diagnostician and his uniform success in the handling of diseases. In addition to splendid technical skill, he possesses broad sympathies which enable him to at once gain the confidence of his patients.

Doctor Maxam has not only always kept in close touch with the trend of medical thought, but is also a close student of social, political and scientific subjects, being broad-minded and keenly interested in all that makes for the betterment of his fellow men. In every sphere of endeavor in which he has taken a part, his ability and strict integrity have elevated him in the confidence of his fellow citizens and his influence is always powerful and salutary in the community.

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#### ROLLIN MAXAM.

The history of a county or state, as well as that of a nation, is chiefly a chronicle of the lives and deeds of those who have conferred honor and dignity upon society. The world judges the character of a community by those of its representative citizens and yields its tributes of admiration and respect to those whose words and actions constitute the record of a state's prosperity and pride. Among the prominent citizens of Gibson county who are well known because of the part they have taken in public affairs, as well as the fact that they come from an old honored family, is Rollin Maxam, the subject of this sketch.

In his present capacity as clerk of the Gibson circuit court, Mr. Maxam doubtless has as wide an acquaintance as any man of his community, due not only to his years of public service, but also to his genial and friendly spirit, his undoubted honesty and integrity. Mr. Maxam was born August 29, 1870, on the same spot on which he now resides, in Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana. He is the son of Sylvester R. and Mary L. (Herman) Maxam. The father was a native of Gibson county, born in 1822 and died in 1895. The mother was born in Pennsylvania in 1827 and died in 1907. They made their home in the same location where the subject of this sketch resides, on what is now known as West State street, for fifty-five or sixty years. This certainly is an enviable experience, which falls to the lot of very few indeed.

The grandfather of the subject, also Sylvester Maxam, came at an early date in the history of Gibson county, and located east of Princeton, near what is now known as Maxam Station, the name serving as a record of the family's early activities. Grandfather and Grandmother Maxam stood high in the esteem of the community by reason of the deeply religious lives they led, their firm convictions leaving their imprint on all the various activities of life.

Sylvester Maxam (father of the subject) and wife first made their home at Maxam Station for a short time, before removing to Princeton. To them were born seven children: Mrs. Sylvester A. Rollin, of Princeton; Andrew L., of Bisbee, Arizona; Mrs. James Conzett, of Princeton, who passed away November 24, 1913; Emma Maxam, of Princeton; Olive M. Maxam, of Washington, D. C.; Robert, deceased, and Rollin, subject of this sketch, who was born after his oldest sister was married, and was given her husband's name. The father and mother were consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he was engaged in the flouring mill and grain business in Princeton for many years.

Rollin Maxam received his earliest education in the local schools, later attending the Indiana Normal University, at that time in Princeton. He served as deputy postmaster for one year, and in 1895 entered the office of the clerk of the Gibson circuit court as deputy to Samuel A. Stewart, for whom he served eight years and then served another eight years in the same capacity to Mr. Stewart's successor, Thomas J. Mason. From his years of faithful service in the office of county clerk and his intimate knowledge of the duties pertaining thereto, his friends induced him to permit his name to appear on the Republican ticket in 1910 as candidate himself for the office of county clerk, and, in spite of the widespread victory of the opposition, Mr. Maxam won his office. One other Republican only was successful. His election was for four years.

On March 3, 1898, Mr. Maxam was united in marriage to Anna Baner, daughter of Anthony and Amelia Baner. Anna Baner was born at New Albany, Indiana, although her parents resided in Evansville, Indiana, at the time of her marriage to Mr. Maxam. To them have been born one child, Robert Anthony, who is now seven years old.

Fraternally, Mr. Maxam has a number of affiliations. He is a member of the Elks Lodge No. 634 of Princeton, of which body he has been secretary for the past seven years. He is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lodge No. 64, of Princeton, and member of the tribes of Red



Men and Ben-Hur. Mr. Maxam, at an early age, manifested an interest in politics, identifying himself with the Republican party and has always been active in its affairs. His years of service in the county office to which he has been elected speak well for the trust and esteem in which he is held in the community. In every phase of life's activities in which he has engaged, Mr. Maxam has been true to every trust and because of the genuine worth of his character he has earned and retains the sincere regard of all who know him.

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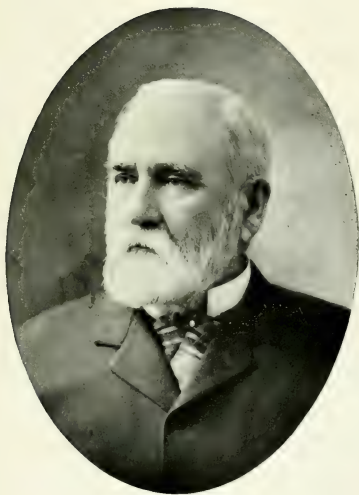
#### ABRAM T. MOORE.

The following is a sketch of a plain, honest man of affairs, who by correct methods and a strict regard for the interests of his fellow men has made his influence felt in his community and won for himself distinctive prestige in the business circles of Princeton and Gibson county. He would be the last man to sit for romance or become the subject of fancy sketches, nevertheless his life presents much that is interesting and valuable and may be studied with profit by the young whose careers are yet to be achieved. He is one of those whose integrity and strength of character must force them into an admirable notoriety which their modesty never seeks, who command the respect of their contemporaries and their posterity and leave the impress of their individuality deeply stamped upon the community.

Abram T. Moore, retired mill operator and grain dealer of Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, was born March 4, 1828, in Stafford county, New Hampshire, the son of Gideon and Nancy (Tilton) Moore of the same county. The father was a cabinet maker by trade and later in life moved to Belknap county, the same state, where he died in his seventy-fifth year. They were of English extraction and the mother was a member of the Congregational church. To them were born five children: Mary, Adeline and Martha are deceased; Abram T.; Selesta is living in Rhode Island.

Abram T. Moore received a common school education and lived on the home farm until he reached his seventeenth year, when he was apprenticed to learn the carpenter's trade and served three years. After perfecting himself in this craft he spent a short time in New York state, subsequently being employed selling goods in Coleville for four years, and then removed to Champaign county, Illinois, in 1856, remaining there until 1875. In Illinois he was one of the pioneer settlers, securing a prairie farm, which he cultivated with success. He later, in 1866, engaged in the grain and milling business at





ABRAM T. MOORE.



Toulon, Illinois, until 1875, when for eleven years he was in the same business in Indianapolis. Eventually, he removed to Gibson county and located at Princeton, where he established an extensive elevator and grain business, building elevators at Princeton, King's Station, Hazleton and Patoka. He was also one of the firm of R. P. Moore Milling Company at Princeton, but is now retired from active business.

Mr. Moore was married to Mary Jane Wiggins, of New Hampshire, who died November 30, 1903. To the subject and wife were born the following children: (1) Elwyn F. lives at St. Cloud, Minnesota, where he is president of the First National Bank, is a land owner and has many other interests. He married Ida H. Tooksbury and to them have been born four children: Carl is a real estate dealer in Cleveland, Ohio; Olive H. married A. S. White, of New York City; George B. is located in Texas, looking after his father's interests; Elwyn F., Jr., is at home. (2) Rodger P. married Virginia Richards. He died in 1908 and she in 1912. He was in the milling business at Princeton, Indiana, from 1885 until his death, was a Mason and a prominent citizen. He was the father of one child, Maude, who is the wife of C. C. Coffee, of San Antonio, Texas. (3) George B., who died in 1902, was also in the grain and milling business at Princeton. He married Minnie Knight, who now lives in Indianapolis, Indiana. They had one daughter, Marjorie, who married H. H. Benedict, of New Haven, Connecticut. (4) Minnie, who lives in Princeton, is the widow of Samuel H. Kidd, who was a leading attorney of that city. She is the mother of three children: Elwyn H. is deceased; Mary E. is a teacher; Grace is attending Indiana University.

In early life the subject was a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is a member of the Baptist church at Princeton. Politically, for years he was allied with the Democratic party, but for the last twenty-five years has been a Prohibitionist.

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#### CHARLES A. MILLER, M. D.

Charles A. Miller was born in Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, on March 8, 1873, the son of G. C. and Lucilla C. (Archer) Miller. Mr. Miller attended the common and high schools of Princeton, and then took a scientific course in the State University at Bloomington, graduating in 1896. He then engaged in teaching school, being employed in the high school at Princeton for three years, and then entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons

at Chicago, where he pursued the regular course in medicine, graduating in 1905, receiving the degree of Doctor of Medicine. The following two years were spent as an interne in the West Side Hospital, and in 1907 he came to Princeton and entered upon the active practice of his profession, in which he has been engaged continuously. He is a general practitioner, having qualifications for both surgery and materia medica, and is numbered among the foremost of his profession in Gibson county. Doctor Miller is a member of the Gibson County Medical Society, the Indiana State Medical Society and the American Medical Association.

In 1911 Doctor Miller was united in marriage with Lenora M. Paxton, the daughter of T. R. and Amelia J. (Jerauld) Paxton. Fraternally, Doctor Miller is a member of the Masonic order.

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#### MICHAEL M. KENNEDY.

To attain a worthy citizenship by a life that is always honored and respected even from childhood, deserves more than mere mention. One may take his place in public life through some vigorous stroke of public policy, and even remain in the hearts of friends and neighbors, but to gradually rise to the same position, winning through sterling worth and faithfulness to trusts, rather than by a craving for exaltation and popularity, is worthy of the highest praise and commendation. As such does the biographer of this volume view the career of the subject of this sketch, present county recorder of Gibson county and for many years one of its best known agriculturists.

Michael M. Kennedy was born in Columbia township, Gibson county, Indiana, on July 7, 1857, the son of James and Jane (Martin) Kennedy. The mother was a native of Gibson county, born in Barton township, and the father was born in Ireland. When quite a young man, James Kennedy emigrated to the United States, landing at New Orleans, but coming directly to Gibson county, Indiana, where he passed the remaining years of his life. He lived a life of activity, and died at the age of seventy-one. His wife survived him a number of years, passing away in 1897. James and Jane Kennedy were the parents of six children, the oldest of whom is the immediate subject of this sketch; David, who lives in Columbia township, Gibson county; Daniel O., who lived all his life in the same township and died there March 26, 1913; Margaret, wife of John F. Gudgel of Gudgel's Station in Columbia

township; Robert Emmett, who died January 7, 1911, at Farmersburg, Sullivan county, Indiana; and Mary E., wife of Doctor R. S. Mason, of Oakland City, Indiana. Immediately upon his arrival in Gibson county, James Kennedy began work as a contractor during the construction of the old Straight Line railroad, known now as the Evansville & Indianapolis. When the shadow of the Civil war brooded over the land, quick to show love for his adopted country, he enlisted in Company A, Forty-second Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and saw much active service. During his service he was badly wounded, from which he never recovered and was compelled to go about on crutches the rest of his life. Too much cannot be said in praise of these adopted sons of our country who so nobly responded to her call in time of distress, and may their memory ever be cherished by the later generations who reap the benefits of their sacrifices.

Michael M. Kennedy received his education at Harper's school house in his native township, and was early trained in the work about a farm. This pursuit was both pleasing and profitable to him and he soon possessed a farm of his own. This, however, he has since disposed of, although his children still own the old homestead. While residing in Columbia township, for six years he served as township assessor, and in the fall of 1910 was elected county recorder for a term of four years. In the discharge of the duties of his office, he is thoroughly competent and holds the honor and respect of the entire community.

In 1879 Mr. Kennedy was united in marriage to Sallie Bell, daughter of J. W. Bell, of Warrick county, who lived near Barton township. Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy have a charming family of six children, though the majority of them have left the parental roof. Emery and Charles are located at Roosevelt, Louisiana; Donald, in Iowa City, Montana; Maud, wife of George Baltazor of Great Falls, Montana, and Earl and Helen, who remain in Princeton.

Mr. Kennedy has been a life-long advocate of the principles of the Democratic party and his election to the office he now fills was well deserved through the services he has rendered his party. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Lodge No. 64, at Princeton.

Mr. Kennedy is an unassuming man and it is needless to add that he is highly respected by all who know him throughout the county where he has always lived and in all the relations of life he has been found faithful to every trust. Because of his sterling worth, uncompromising integrity and pleasant disposition, he has won and retains the high regard of all with whom he associates.

## PRESSLEY R. BALDRIDGE.

The gentleman to whom the reader's attention is now directed was not favored by inherited wealth or the assistance of influential friends, but in spite of these, by perseverance, industry and a wise economy, he has attained a comfortable station in life, and is well and favorably known throughout Gibson county as a result of the industrious life he has lived here for many years, being regarded by all who know him as a man of the best type of American citizenship, straightforward, unassuming, genial and obliging, who while advancing his individual interests does not neglect his general duties as a citizen.

Pressley R. Baldridge was born in Randolph county, Illinois, near Sparta, April 17, 1831, the son of Samuel C. and Hannah (Reed) Baldridge, the father, who died in 1866, having followed the ministry his entire life, first laboring in the Social Reformed church and later in the United Presbyterian.

Such schooling as could be gained in the pioneer schools was the lot of the subject and after acquiring this meager education he engaged in farm labor for some years and then turned his attention to the trade of cabinet-making, which he followed actively until he reached his seventy-seventh year, being well and widely known as an expert workman. It is a well known fact that the work of this character turned out in our fathers' times by hand was of a much better brand of workmanship than that we have today.

On October 15, 1861, Mr. Baldridge enlisted in the Union army as a musician, he having previously been a member of the Princeton band, but his term of service was less than a year on account of all bands being mustered out at Nashville in 1862. The subject had one brother, James, who died many years ago in Rush county, Indiana.

Mr. Baldridge was married on December 31, 1857, to Jane Lockert, and to this union have been born ten children, namely: Margaret is the wife of Crawford Stormont, a carpenter; Ida M. died in her twenty-eighth year; Samuel C. lives in Evansville, Indiana; William A. is a traveling man and makes St. Louis his home; Martha M. lives at home; James P. is a dentist at Vincennes, Indiana; Hester, who lives at home; Rebecca A. is the wife of Harry E. Hager, of Jersey City, New Jersey; Mary A. died young; Fannie L., deceased.

The subject is an honored member of the Grand Army of the Republic,

in which he takes an abiding interest, while religiously he is connected with the United Presbyterian church.

In politics Mr. Baldridge rendered a staunch allegiance to the Republican party up to 1884, when he cast his support with the Prohibition party and takes an active interest in its success, though he is not in any sense a man who has sought for himself the emoluments or honors of public office. He is a man of progressive ideas; as a man of strict morality, the community could ask no better; as a man of integrity, no district can boast of a citizen more honest, and as a man of intelligence he ranks high, enjoying the unbounded respect and esteem of those with whom he associates.

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### HERMAN SIEGERT.

Every nation on the earth has contributed its quota to the population of the United States, but no nation has furnished better citizens for our country than has Germany. Hundreds of thousands of the best blood of Germany have come to this country and become the most substantial citizens of the various localities in which they settled. Fortunate indeed is the locality which has its German descendants numbered among its citizens, for wherever they are found, they are always among the most substantial citizens of the community. The habits of thrift and frugality which they inherited from their ancestors always make them valuable assets to the community at large. No one ever heard of a German dying in the poorhouse. It is unquestioned that the example set by thrifty German citizens has been very beneficial not to our native American, but to the citizens of all other countries as well. Indiana was fortunate in the days before the war, and immediately after the war, in attracting many thousands of good Germans to her borders. Among the many German families coming to this state at the close of the war was the Siegert family.

Herman Siegert, the son of August and Annie (Schaucke) Siegert, was born in Saxony, Germany, in 1847. He came with his parents to America in 1857. They landed at New Orleans and from thence they came up the Mississippi and Ohio rivers to Mt. Vernon. Later they settled near Grayville, Illinois, where August Siegert bought forty acres of land. He cleared this land and improved it and spent his remaining days on this place, his death occurring there at an advanced age.

Herman Siegert grew up on his father's farm in Illinois, and worked

out a part of the time before he reached his majority. At that time his father gave him a team and he rented his father's farm and was very successful in his efforts. Within a short time he was able to buy forty acres near the home farm. Some years later he sold this tract and bought another farm in Wabash county, Illinois, across the Wabash river from Gibson county. In 1872 he was very fortunate in buying one hundred acres of land in Wabash township Gibson county, Indiana, for the very small sum of three hundred dollars. This land was covered with a fine growth of timber, which in itself was worth more than the price he paid for the land. Mr. Siegert probably had the honor of reaping the first wheat which was ever grown in the Wabash bottoms in this township. He cleared the land and gradually improved it by ditching and draining until it was known as one of the best farms of the township. With true German thrift he saved his money and invested in more land. As a farmer he has had but few equals in the history of the township, a fact which is shown by his extensive land holdings at the present time. He now owns two thousand four hundred acres in Wabash township alone, as well as other farms in Posey and Warrick counties.

In 1882 Mr. Siegert was married to Sarah Pedigo, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Pedigo. She was born at Owensville, this county. After their marriage they made their home about three miles south of Crowleyville in Wabash township, where his wife died four years later, leaving one daughter, Amanda, who married Paul Maier, and she and her husband live with her father. After the death of his wife Mr. Siegert closed his home and boarded in the vicinity of his various farms until the marriage of his daughter in 1908, since which time he has made his home with her and her husband.

Mr. Siegert is a loyal and earnest member of the German Lutheran church and has always contributed very liberally to its support. Mr. Siegert is a man of very few words, plain, gentle and unassuming, who attends strictly to his own business. He has never interested himself actively in politics and has never sought political office at the hands of any party. He is an excellent type of the worthy German citizen and shows what can be accomplished by fixed purpose and consecutive endeavor. He is a conspicuous example of the pioneer who began life in a new country and, under unfavorable circumstances, by his own integrity and industry has made a career of marked success in agricultural affairs. He has lived a useful and honorable life, a life characterized by perseverance and earnest effort, and the



honorable life he has led might well set an example to the younger generation. His lifelong record for right living and industrial habits, for education and morality and for all which contributes to the welfare of the community, may well be emulated by the coming generation.

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#### MILTON CUSHMAN.

Holding eminent prestige among the successful men of his community, the subject of this review has had much to do in advancing the material interests of Gibson county. The study of such a life can not fail of interest and incentive, for he has been not only distinctively representative in his sphere of endeavor, but has established a reputation for integrity and honor. Numbered among the substantial and worthy citizens of his community, none more than he deserves representation in a work of the character of the one in hand.

Milton Cushman, the present efficient county treasurer of Gibson county, was born July 13, 1865, in Princeton. He received his education in the public schools of that city. Reared on a farm, he has followed the pursuit of agriculture all his life, and the present estate of the subject, located five miles southwest of Princeton, in Patoka township, is considered one of the model agricultural plants in the county, it being the garden spot of the section.

Having spent one term as an assistant in the office of the county treasurer, Mr. Cushman was eminently fitted to fill that office, to which he was elected in 1912 on the Democratic ticket, and his administration of the affairs of that responsible position has given the utmost satisfaction to the taxpayers of Gibson county.

Modest and unassuming in his manner and of a genial and approachable personality. Mr. Cushman has probably as large a circle of friends as any man in the county, his strict attention to his own affairs and his straightforward and clean life having made him a man whom it is a delight to know and honor.

In fraternal matters, Mr. Cushman takes a deep interest in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of which he is an earnest member, striving in his daily walk to exemplify the beautiful and worthy precepts taught by that order. His support in religious matters is given to the Methodist Episcopal church. He has never married.

## HUGH HANNA, SR.

Dependent very largely upon his own resources from his early youth, Hugh Hanna, Sr., of Patoka township, has attained no insignificant success, and though he may have, like most men of affairs, encountered obstacles and met with reverses, he has pressed steadily forward, ever willing to work for the end he has in view. His tenacity and fortitude are due, no doubt, in a large measure to the worthy traits inherited from his sterling ancestors, whose high ideals and correct principles he has ever sought to perpetuate in all the relations of life.

Hugh Hanna, Sr., who, after many years of successful efforts as agriculturist, is now living retired in his comfortable home at Princeton, Indiana, was born in December, 1843, in county Wigtown, Scotland. He was the son of Hugh and Margaret (Osborn) Hanna, who were both born, reared and married in the same locality, where the father followed farming all his life, and there died. He and his wife were members of the Presbyterian church. The latter came to America some time after his death, and here lived with her son, the subject of this sketch, until her death. She was the mother of two children, Margaret, who married a Mr. Wilson and lives in Rutland, Vermont, and Hugh, the immediate subject of this sketch. As a boy, Hugh Hanna had very little schooling in Scotland, and spent the major portion of his time on his father's farm, until he came to America with John Kerr and family, locating in Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana. Here he started to learn the blacksmith's trade with Jonas Tichenor, with whom he remained for about three years, until the breaking out of the Civil war, when he entered the army and performed valiant service in the defense of his adopted country. After his return from the army in the fall of 1865, Mr. Hanna was married and continued to be employed at his trade until 1868, when he was employed in a hardware store for about two years. He then bought a hundred and sixty acres of land in Patoka township, to which he has applied himself continuously since, his efforts being rewarded with splendid success. He is a good all-round farmer, giving his attention to every detail of his work, and the splendid residence and other buildings on the place, well-kept fences and other details show him to be a man of good judgment and sound discrimination.

In the fall of 1865 Mr. Hanna was united in marriage with Mary Jane Cook, a native of county Donegal, Ireland, who came to the United States in 1862. To this union have been born four children, namely: David, a painter by trade, living in Princeton; Mary, the wife of John B. Woods, a



HUGH HANNA, SR.



merchant in Princeton; Elizabeth, the wife of Hugh Thompson, a piano tuner of Princeton; Hugh, Jr., the owner of a novelty works at Princeton.

Politically a Republican, Mr. Hanna has been a warm supporter of his party and has taken an active part in advancing its interests in this locality, though the honors of public office have never proved attractive enough to him to induce him to try for office. Fraternally, he is a member of Archer Post No. 28, Grand Army of the Republic, in Princeton, this membership being particularly consonant in view of the subject's military record, referred to briefly in the preceding paragraph. In 1864 he enlisted as a private in Company H, Seventeenth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, which was mounted, and he was sent to Georgia, where he took part in the Atlanta campaign, and then in the pursuit of Hood to Nashville and on to Wilson's raid. From there he returned to Macon, Georgia, where he was discharged in August, 1865. He served valiantly in the ranks throughout the struggle, and was fortunate in being neither wounded nor taken prisoner. According to the statement of his comrades, he was a faithful and courageous soldier and ably performed his part in the suppression of the great rebellion. Religiously, Mr. Hanna is a member of the Presbyterian church, to which he gives earnest support. He has always been regarded as a man of high principles, honest in every respect and broad minded. A man of clean character, kindness of heart to the unfortunate, and ever willing to aid in any way in causes for the betterment of the community, and the public with whom he has been associated, he is held in high favor and the utmost respect is accorded him by all who know him.

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### JAMES P. ROBY.

The best history of a community or state is the one that deals mostly with the lives and activities of its people, especially of those who by their own endeavor and indomitable energy, have forged to the front and placed themselves where they deserve the title of progressive men. In this brief review may be found the record of one who has outstripped the less active plodders on the highway of life, and by the exercise of his talents, he has risen to a position which is one of the most influential of his township. He possesses those admirable qualities, characteristics of mind and heart which make him a credit to the community favored by his residence. As a private citizen and

as a public official he has won the unbounded esteem and respect of his fellow citizens.

James P. Roby, the son of John and Rachel (Bristow) Roby, was born in 1877 in Edwards county, Illinois. His father, John Roby, came from Davis county, Kentucky, when a small child, in about the year 1852. Robert Roby, the grandfather of James P., came from Davis county, Kentucky, to Edwards county, Illinois, early in the history of that state. He was a native of Virginia and, according to the family records, he was born in the same county as was Thomas Jefferson. His death occurred in Edwards county, Illinois, and his son, John, grew up in that county, was married there, and has lived there on a farm all of his life. Rachel Bristow Roby, the mother of the subject, was born in Davis county, Kentucky, and moved to Edwards county, Illinois, about 1852, with her parents, Benjamin P. and Sallie (Crawford) Bristow. She lived in Illinois until 1885, when with her husband she moved to Wabash township, Gibson county, Indiana, where they resided for about twenty years. They then moved back to Illinois, where they are still living. However, the subject of this sketch, James P., remained in this county, and followed the occupation of teaching for eight years. As a school teacher, he made an excellent record as an instructor and disciplinarian. At the time he stopped teaching he was one of the best known teachers in the county. He was elected township assessor, an office which he held for five years. The citizens of the township in which he had been teaching recognized his superior ability as an executive and elected him as township trustee of Wabash township, an office which he has filled with great credit to himself as well as to the township. As trustee he has taken an unusual amount of interest in the schools of his township, and has built them up so that they are the best schools in the county.

Mr. Roby was married in 1901 to Leota H. Gibson, the daughter of Charles and Melinda (Waddle) Gibson. Her father died when she was a small child, and she and her mother lived for some years with her grandfather, David Waddle, in Wabash county, Illinois, across the Wabash river from Gibson county. Some years after moving to Illinois, her mother married Fred Freeman, of Wabash township, Gibson county.

To Mr. and Mrs. Roby have been born four children, Leslie, Charles, Annazene and Edna. Mr. Roby has always been an adherent of the Democratic party and is not a mere partisan, but takes a very active interest in all public affairs and is one of the best posted men on current events in the town-

ship. It is probably safe to say that no more popular township official has ever exercised the duties of his office than has the subject of this sketch. Mr. Roby is a man of kindly nature, modest and unassuming in his demeanor and is one of those genial men whom it is a pleasure to meet at any time. He is a man of vigorous mentality, deeply interested in everything pertaining to the welfare of his community along material and civic lines, and is justly regarded as one of the progressive and enterprising men of his township. His life has been one of unceasing industry, and the systematic and honorable methods he has followed have won for him the confidence of his fellow citizens of Gibson county, whose interests he has ever had at heart.

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#### PAUL MAIER.

Not too often can be repeated the life history of one who has lived so honorable and useful a life and attained to such distinction as he whose name appears at the head of this sketch. As a private citizen and as a public official he has been a pronounced success in everything with which he has been connected. There are individuals in nearly every community who by reason of ability and force of character rise above the heads of the masses and command the unbounded esteem of their fellow men. Such individuals are characterized by perseverance and a directing spirit, two virtues that never fail. They always make their presence felt and the vigor of their strong personalities serves as a stimulant and incentive to the young and rising generation. To this energetic and enterprising class the subject of this sketch very properly belongs.

Paul Maier, the son of Maurice and Anna (Mehl) Maier, was born in 1869 at Mt. Vernon, Indiana. He grew up in the town of Mt. Vernon and received all of his education in the public schools of that place. Mr. Maier has always been very active in politics, and as a Republican has been elected to three county offices in Posey county. His first office, however, was as marshal of Mt. Vernon. Immediately following his term as marshal of the town of Mt. Vernon, he was elected sheriff of Posey county, Indiana, and gave such excellent satisfaction as sheriff that he was elected to the office of county clerk, notwithstanding the fact that Posey county is normally strongly Democratic. He handled the duties of county clerk so satisfactorily to the people of the county that he was easily elected upon the expiration of his term as county clerk to the office of county auditor. Here again he was

very successful in conducting the affairs of the office. In his whole official career he has striven for clean politics, and has always conducted the various public offices which he has held with the integrity and fairness that his self-respect demanded. It is safe to say that not a more popular sheriff, clerk or auditor ever served the people of Posey county than Mr. Maier. It is very possible that no other man in the state enjoys the honor of having held three county offices in succession, and especially in a county where the opposing party usually elected all the county officials. It certainly speaks well for the business ability and strict integrity with which Mr. Maier conducted his official affairs. There have been a few men who have been elected to two county offices, but seldom, if ever, in the state in the last few years has any man been elected to three county offices in succession.

Mr. Maier was united in marriage in 1908 to Amanda Siegert, the only child of Herman Siegert and Sarah (Pedigo) Siegert, whose family is represented elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Maier is an unusually well educated and refined woman, possessing all the social graces which characterize the woman of culture. She is an accomplished musician, and graces her beautiful home with dignity and hospitality.

Mr. and Mrs. Maier have one of the most beautiful country homes in the state. Upon coming to the entrance of this home one passes through an archway, on which is inscribed "Mount Siegert." Driving through the archway a broad gravel road is seen leading up to the Jordan hills, which rise abruptly from the river bottoms. High up among the hills, commanding a view for many miles in all directions, is their beautiful residence, finished in mission style. Handsome paintings adorn the walls, beautiful furniture is seen in all the rooms. A modern lighting system is one of the prominent features of the house. This home, built in 1911 by Mr. Maier, was designed by his versatile wife, and embodies all the latest ideas in architecture.

In this delightful home Mr. and Mrs. Maier dispense their hospitality with a kindly and generous hand. Mr. Maier is a man of wide experience in public life and is used to mixing with the busy life of the people. He is affable, courteous and popular wherever he is known, and his wife shares his popularity with him. Fraternally, Mr. Maier is a member of the Knights of Pythias and takes an active interest in the affairs of that fraternity. He and his wife are both loyal and earnest members of the German Lutheran church and have always contributed liberally to the support of that denomination. Mr. Maier, by his straightforward and honorable course, has become very successful in the business affairs in which he has been engaged. He is plentifully endowed with good common sense, energy and determination,



and has accomplished what he has by being methodical and unswervingly persistent in the transaction of all his business, whether private or public. He has been essentially a man of affairs, of sound judgment, of keen discernment, far-seeing in whatever he undertakes, and whatever enterprise he has addressed himself to has resulted in liberal material rewards. A man of much vigor, of such praiseworthy public service is clearly entitled to representation in the biographical volume of the present nature, and for this reason his career is and should be an example to the coming generation of his community.

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### NATHAN B. KNOWLES.

Among the settlers who came to Indiana before its admission to the Union in 1816 and who have been identified with the history of southern Indiana for more than a century through their descendants, there is no more highly respected family than the Knowles family. The grandfather of Nathan B. Knowles was Nathaniel Knowles, who came to Gibson county with his parents when a small boy. He was married in 1882 to Temperance Born, and to this marriage there were born seven children: Serelda, born 1822; Enos Andrew, born 1824; John W., born 1826; Asbury, born 1828; Louisa, born 1830; Patsy, born 1832; Melissa, born 1834. Nathaniel Knowles died at Knowles Station, February 2, 1892, at the advanced age of ninety-six years, seven months and fifteen days, leaving an estate of four hundred acres of fine land in Gibson county.

The third child of Nathaniel was John W., the father of Nathan B. Knowles, the immediate subject of this sketch. John W. Knowles married Rachel Catherine Carter, the daughter of Benjamin Ford and Rachel Carter, and to this union there were born seven children: Temperance Jane, born May 5, 1854; Berry H., born December 9, 1856; Enos Andrew, born December 1, 1858; Benjamin E., born April 8, 1861; Rachel Elizabeth, born 1865; Nathan B., the subject of this sketch, born January 27, 1871; and Melvia Ethel, born November 1, 1875.

Benjamin Ford and Rachel Carter reared a large family of twelve children: Elizabeth, born February 14, 1807; Joseph, born October 14, 1808; Polly M., born February 24, 1811; Julian, born October 6, 1812; Minerva, born June 3, 1815; Lucinda, born February 2, 1817; Nancy E., born November 16, 1819; Anderson N., born July 5, 1824; Eunice, born February 22, 1827; Wren, born March 20, 1829; Susan W., born May 8, 1831; and Rachel

Catherine, the mother of Nathan B. Knowles, born November 7, 1833. Benjamin Ford Carter came to Indiana in 1813 and before his death had one hundred and sixty acres of land in Posey and Gibson counties.

Nathan B. Knowles, whose family history has been traced back two generations on both sides of the house, was born at Knowles Station, Montgomery township, Indiana, on January 27, 1871. He received his education in the common schools of his township and spent his vacations in work upon his father's farm. He has devoted himself to the best interests of the paternal estate and still lives with his father.

In politics, Mr. Knowles has always adhered to the Republican party, and has taken more or less of an active part in local political affairs since becoming of age. He is a member of the Christian church and is interested in the activities of the church and all other movements which seek to better the conditions of the community in which he lives. Mr. Knowles is a worthy representative of an old and highly respected family which has furnished many of the best citizens of southern Indiana.

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#### GEORGE A. RUTTER.

A man's reputation is the property of the world, for the laws of nature have forbidden isolation. Every human being either submits to the controlling force of others or wields an influence which touches, controls, guides or misdirects others. If he be honest and successful in his chosen field of endeavor, investigation will brighten his fame and point the way along which others may safely follow. The reputation of George A. Rutter, one of the older citizens of Oakland City, Indiana, has ever been above reproach, and it is with pleasure that the biographer now takes his life under review.

George A. Rutter is a native of the Hoosier state, born in Posey county, Indiana, on November 12, 1841, a son of Austin and Eliza (Johnson) Rutter, both of whom were born in the southwestern part of Gibson county. Austin died there at the age of twenty-one, leaving his young widow and two children, the younger of whom, Austin, is a truck farmer at Mount Carmel, Illinois, and the older is George A., the immediate subject of this sketch. Later, the widow was united in marriage with Ambrose Coleman, of Monroe township, Pike county, Indiana, and she died at the age of thirty-eight years. Both Ambrose Coleman and wife were members of the Christian church and lived lives in keeping with its teachings. They were the parents of four children, John, Margaret, Levi and Thomas, all of whom are dead.

George A. Rutter received but a limited schooling in the early subscription schools of the county and started out in life for himself when quite young. In September, 1861, at Owensville, Indiana, he enlisted in Company E, Forty-second Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was first sent to Evansville, Indiana. Later he was ordered to Nashville, Tennessee, and soon thereafter was engaged in several battles, those of Perrysville, Storm River, Resaca and Chickamauga. He was in the First Brigade, First Division of the Fourteenth Army Corps and was all through the Atlanta campaign. He was with General Sherman on his famous march to the sea and was at the grand review of troops in Washington, D. C., in May, 1865. He received his honorable discharge at Louisville, Kentucky, in July, 1865.

After the close of the war Mr. Rutter located in Barton township, Gibson county, on Snake creek, where for several years he engaged in farming. After he left that location and previous to the time he settled at Oakland City in 1896, where he has since resided, he lived for a time at Bellmont, Illinois, Terre Haute, Indiana, farmed for a time in Rock county, Nebraska, and was also in Mayfield, California, for a while. Since residing at Oakland City he has served the public as constable and also as tax collector. He has done a good deal of carpenter work and in 1898 built his present comfortable home.

Mr. Rutter has been married twice. In February, 1863, he was united in marriage with Hannah Emmerson, a native of Gibson county. Her death occurred on November 8, 1903, and in 1905 he took as his second wife Mrs. Jane Richardson, widow of William W. Richardson, of Warrick county, Indiana, a son of George and Jane Richardson, who were natives of North Carolina and early settlers of Warrick county. George Richardson engaged in agricultural work all his life and was also a veteran of the Civil war. William Wesley Richardson, first husband of Mrs. Rutter, grew to manhood in Warrick county, receiving a good common school education. The latter part of his life was spent in Columbia township, Gibson county, where he engaged in farming and where he died on October 6, 1903. He, too, was a soldier in the Civil war, having enlisted in September, 1861, in Company F, Thirty-third Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and he served until the close of the war. He had endured the hardships and privations of both Libby and Andersonville prisons and to him, as to all other loyal sons of our country who went through so much in the dark days of the sixties, a vast tribute is due. Mr. Richardson was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic at Oakland City and a man highly honored by a large circle of friends.

Mrs. Rutter is a daughter of Benjamin and Joanna (Beatty) Lance, natives of Pike county, who passed their entire lives within its borders, engaged in farming. They were the parents of seven children, namely: Sylvester, Emory, William, Jane, who is Mrs. Rutter, Mont, Jonathan and Lottie.

Mr. Rutter is a member of A. H. Cockrum Post No. 520, Grand Army of the Republic, and his religious affiliation is with the General Baptist church, of which he is a consistent member, giving of his time and means to furthering its cause. Mrs. Rutter holds her church membership with the United Brethren church, and both of them are well known and have many warm friends not only in Oakland City, but throughout Gibson county. Mr. Rutter is properly numbered among the substantial citizens of his locality, having contributed in many ways to the advancement of his fellow-citizens, and is therefore in every way deserving of honorable mention in a biographical history of his county.

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### THEODORE M. BUCKLIN.

He to whom this sketch is dedicated is a member of one of the oldest and most honored pioneer families in Gibson county, and there is particular interest attached to a study of his life record, owing to the fact that he has forged his way to the front by reason of an innate ability and personal characteristics that seldom fail to win the goal sought. It is highly interesting in this day of modern improvements to contemplate, at least in part, the lives of the early pioneers of our county, and the reference to the immediate ancestors of the subject of this sketch suggests an interesting train of thought.

Theodore M. Bucklin is descended from one of the very oldest families in Gibson county, and was born on his paternal grandfather's old homestead one and one-quarter miles east of Princeton, on March 9, 1841. This paternal grandfather was David Bucklin, who was born and raised in Rhode Island and the father of several children before they decided to try their fortunes in what was then the wilderness. They journeyed westward in those early days, and finally reached the small settlement now known as Evansville, Indiana. Here, though they would have been glad to settle near neighbors, they believed the land laid too low, and so, after resting a time, they made their way on into Gibson county where they were pleased with the higher ground. Near Evansville they could have obtained all the land they wanted

at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre. When they reached a point suitable to their liking, they found two cabins close together, which was the beginning of the now flourishing city of Princeton, Indiana. They selected land for the most part heavily timbered, and with cheerfulness commenced the difficult task of clearing and erecting a cabin home and getting out at least sufficient crops to tide them over until another season. Wild game abounded about them and for many years they were able to supply their table with fresh meat in this manner. Deer were often shot from their cabin-door and occasionally wild hogs also. David Bucklin and wife passed the remainder of their lives on this homestead, and here they reared their family of children, all of whom are dead. The names follow: George, a saw-mill and lumber man, lived in Princeton; Jerry, who never married and was killed at the old steam mill in Princeton; William, a brick mason in Princeton; Mary, who married Edward Pinney and resided in Princeton, and Cornelia, who married John Gilbert and made her home in Evansville, Indiana. The sixth child was Horace, father of the immediate subject of this sketch, born August 19, 1811.

Horace Bucklin attended school in Rhode Island before coming west with his father and in that way received a pretty fair education for those days. In 1839 he was married to Amelia Maxam, who was a native of Connecticut and had been brought to Gibson county by her parents. To their union were born five children, namely: Theodore M., subject of this sketch; Amelia, widow of J. A. Leonard, of Muncie, Indiana; another child named Amelia, which had died aged four years; George W., a physician of Muncie, Indiana, educated in Princeton (New York) Medical College, first practiced for fourteen years in New Harmony, Indiana, and has since been in Muncie, Indiana. His wife was Emma Wright. The fifth child was Eliza, who married William Perry and resides at St. Petersburg, Florida. After his marriage, Horace Bucklin and wife made their home on his father's farm for four years, when he procured a tract of wild land one and one-half miles southeast of Princeton, which he cleared and made a happy and substantial home. Later he sold this ground and moved to Princeton, where he died in 1896 at the age of eighty-five years. The wife died at the home of a son in Muncie, Indiana, in May, 1901, at the age of eighty-nine years. Horace Bucklin and wife were life-long members of the Methodist Episcopal church, as were also his parents, and in that faith he had been reared. He was originally a Whig, but at the formation of the Republican party he gave it his support. He was a leader among the men of his time, well liked and highly respected by all.

Theodore M. Bucklin attended the early subscription schools in Gibson county, held in the little log school house, with open fireplace and puncheon seats. He early gave assistance to his father in clearing the wild land they were trying to convert into well tilled acres and remained at his father's home until the time he enlisted in the army during the Civil war in August, 1862. He went as a private in Company A, Eightieth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, at Princeton, and was first sent to Indianapolis to be fitted out. From there he was sent to Louisville, Kentucky, and on to Perrysville where he was in the battle that took place October 8, 1862. He was at Resaca and was in the Atlanta campaign throughout, with the Army of the Cumberland, and was with Company A of the Eightieth Regiment when they were taken to Franklin and put on boats at Clifton, Tennessee, sent to Cincinnati and from there by train to Baltimore, Maryland, and thence to Alexandria, Virginia. There he became ill and spent some time in the hospital, was later sent to a hospital in Washington, D. C., where he remained until April 13, 1865. He was in a hospital in the same square as the Ford Theatre at the time President Lincoln was assassinated. He was soon after removed to the Quaker hospital in Philadelphia where he remained for three months and reached home in September of 1865. He had received his discharge two months previous, but was unable to make the journey home at the time, and even after reaching home was a very sick man for a long time.

On September 20, 1866, Mr. Bucklin was united in marriage to Amanda Van Sant, daughter of James and Mary (Nexy) Van Sant, pioneers of Gibson county. The father was a farmer and millwright. To the subject and wife have been born seven children: Lillian, wife of Charles Shanum, residing at St. Louis, Missouri; Essie, wife of Walter Galligan, of Oakland City, Indiana; Halbert, a printer in Indianapolis, who married Cora Sutton; William C., connected with the furniture business in Princeton, whose wife was Marie Kern; Van, a druggist in Chicago, Illinois; Grace, wife of Foreman Knowles, ex-county treasurer of Gibson county and now in the banking business in Princeton; and Bruce, unmarried, a printer located in Evansville, Indiana.

After their marriage, Theodore M. Bucklin and wife settled down to farming the old Van Sant place east of Princeton, where they remained a few years, when they moved to Oakland City, Indiana, where he carried on a teaming business. They remained there four years, when they returned to Princeton, where he took up carpenter work and continued this line of work

until he retired in 1910. Mr. Bucklin is a charter member of Archer Post No. 28, Grand Army of the Republic, and his religious sympathies are with the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he has been a consistent member for a great many years. He is well posted on current events, has many warm friends in Princeton, and indeed throughout Gibson county, and it is by and through a man's friends that he is most truly known. During all the years of his life, Mr. Bucklin has been known as a man of honor in all the relations of life and it is this consistency in all things that has made for him an enviable place in the estimation of all those who know him.

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### JOSEPH C. HARTIN.

In the early days the Middle West was often a tempting field for the energetic, ambitious and strong-minded men and Indiana was filled with them during the time she was struggling to a respectable position in the sisterhood of states. Before Indiana was admitted to the Union in 1816 there were some sixty-odd thousand people, all told, who had settled within the limits of the state. At that time there was a fascination in the broad fields of great promise which this new region presented to activities which attracted many men and induced them to brave the discomforts of the early life here for the pleasure and gratification of constructing their fortunes in their own way and after their own methods. It is this class of men more than any other who give shape, direction and character to the life of any community. It is an axiom of history that it is the strong willed and most energetic men who lead the van of the frontiersmen in any new and undeveloped country. Among the pioneers of Gibson county, Indiana, who came there before 1816, we find the Hartin family, and during all of these years they have been important factors in the life of the county.

Joseph C. Hartin, of Princeton, Indiana, was born in the house where he now lives at No. 222 East Water street, on January 13, 1839. He is a son of Joseph and Nancy Agnes (Stormont) Hartin. The Stormont family is mentioned specifically elsewhere in this volume. Joseph Hartin, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Chester county, South Carolina, July 4, 1800, the same day that Indiana was created a territory. He died December 8, 1847. His wife was born October 22, 1799, and died April 7, 1877. Their marriage occurred in 1820. Joseph Hartin and his two sisters were left orphans in early life and came here while



it was still a territory, settling in Princeton, Indiana. He was a carpenter by trade and built several buildings which are still standing today in the city of Princeton. A few years after coming to Princeton he was injured by some lumber falling upon him and as a result he was compelled to give up his contracting and building business. He then added the locksmith trade and general indoor carpenter work to his endeavors and by this means made a comfortable living. He helped construct the old water mill at Patoka. In his political belief he was an Abolitionist and later a Whig. In his church relations he was a devoted member of the Reformed Presbyterian church. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hartin were the parents of eight children, Margaret Jane, born April 17, 1821, died in 1861, married Andrew J. Wright; David Stormont, born February 22, 1823, who was a millwright in Princeton and Evansville; Mary, born June 15, 1825, deceased wife of Calvin Blair; Elizabeth Rosanna, born December 8, 1821, deceased; Martha Ann, born July 2, 1830, deceased; Mary Catherine, born February 17, 1833, married Robert Little; Sarah Amanda, born October 25, 1835, married John W. Fisher and is now deceased; the eighth and youngest child being Joseph C., the immediate subject of this review.

Joseph C. Hartin attended the subscription school which flourished in the time of his boyhood and later went to school in the old Princeton Seminary. His schooling, however, was very limited. At the age of thirteen he started out in life to support himself. At that tender age he apprenticed himself to a blacksmith and started in to learn the trade. He later added the painter's trade, which he followed until he retired in 1909.

Mr. Hartin was married February 2, 1871, to Jessie S. Kerr, of Scotland, a daughter of John and Mary Kerr. Both of her parents were natives of Scotland and her mother died in that country. After her mother's death her father, with three daughters and one son, came to America. Mrs. Minnie Mooney, of Danville, Illinois; Mrs. Hartin; John, who was a farmer near Princeton, now deceased; the third daughter returned to Scotland and married in that country. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph C. Hartin were the parents of three children, one of whom was Mary Duncan, who became the wife of Doris R. Head, the present mayor of Princeton, Indiana. Mr. Head was born in that city April 17, 1871, the son of Cornelius F. and Mary (Brownlee) Head. His father came to this city from Kentucky and engaged in the mercantile business with Charles Brownlee under the firm name of Head, Brownlee & Company. Cornelius Head died at Cartersburg, Georgia, in 1875. Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Head only had one son, Doris R., his



mother dying when he was but seven weeks old and his father when he was about four years of age. He was educated in the common schools of Gibson county and graduated from the high school at Princeton. For some years he was in the brokerage business at Princeton and then was appointed deputy sheriff for one term. He was admitted to the practice of law March 7, 1913, and has practiced in Princeton since that time. On November 4, 1912, he was elected mayor of his native city for a term of four years. Mr. Head has been active in Democratic politics for a number of years and his election to the mayoralty of Princeton shows the high esteem in which he is held by the citizens of his native city. He was married to Mary Duncan Hartin, the daughter of Joseph C. and Jessie (Kerr) Hartin on November 11, 1908. The second child of Mr. and Mrs. Hartin is Joseph Melvin, a tailor of Lexington, Kentucky, who married Ada Smith and has three children, Eloise, Virginia and Nancy. The third and youngest child is John Aden, who is a laundryman at New Albany, Indiana.

Joseph C. Hartin was one of the defenders of the Union in its struggles for existence in the sixties. On August 11, 1862, he enlisted in Company A, Eightieth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, at Princeton. His company was sent to Indianapolis after being mustered in and was later transferred to Cincinnati, Ohio, and thence to Covington, Kentucky. Their first engagement was at Perrysville, Kentucky, on October, 8, 1862. The succeeding engagements and the dates on which they occurred are as follows: Marrow, Kentucky, July 2, 1863; Kingston, Tennessee, November 25, 1863; Mossy Creek, Tennessee, December 29, 1863; Buzzard Roost, Tennessee, May 9, 1864; Resaca, Georgia, May 14, 1864; Dallis Hill, Georgia, May 28, 1864; Lost Mountain, June 16, 1864; Kenesaw Mountain, June 25, 1864; Siege of Atlanta, July 19 to August 9, 1864; Lovejoy Station, September 2 and 3, 1864; Rome, Georgia, October 13, 1864; Columbia, Tennessee, November 26, 1864; Franklin, Tennessee, November 30, 1864; Nashville, Tennessee, December 15 and 16, 1864; Fort Anderson, North Carolina, February 17, 1865; Wilmington, North Carolina, February 22, 1865, and Goldboro, North Carolina, March 31, 1865. His company was attached to the Twenty-third Army Corps under General Scofield, and was mustered out on June 22, 1865, at Indianapolis. Mr. Hartin has some interesting data upon his whole career in the Civil war, one of which shows the total number of miles which he traveled while in the service. He has computed that he traveled two thousand fifty miles by water, two thousand four hundred fifty-five by rail, three thousand seven hundred by foot, making

a total of eight thousand two hundred and fifty-six miles. It is needless to say that he is a loyal member of the Grand Army post at Princeton. He was a charter member of this post and is past commander of the same. Mr. Hartin had an enviable record as a soldier and can look back upon his military record as one which has never failed to redound to his honor and credit.

Mr. Hartin has been a staunch Republican all his life and has taken a great deal of interest in politics. He has never held any office except that of deputy sheriff, although he has been active in the conventions of his party. He is a member of the United Presbyterian church of Princeton and contributes generously of his substance to its support. No man is better known in his county than is Joseph C. Hartin, and no man is more highly respected than he. He has lived that life which brings with it the satisfaction of having done his full duty towards his fellow citizens.

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#### HARRISON WHITE.

Few men of Gibson county, Indiana, are as widely and favorably known as Harrison White. He is one of those strong and influential citizens whose lives have become an essential part of this history of this community and for years his name has been synonymous for all that constitutes honorable and upright manhood. Tireless energy, keen perception and honesty of purpose, combined with every-day common sense, are among his chief characteristics, and while advancing his own individual success, he also has largely promoted the moral and material welfare of his community.

Harrison White was born February 11, 1838, in Pike county, Indiana, four miles west of Petersburg, the son of Henry and Susan (Johnson) White, she a native of Barren county, Kentucky, and he of Rowan county, North Carolina. The father was reared to manhood in North Carolina and, coming to Indiana in 1832, met and married the subject's mother. He was a farmer all his days, his death occurring near Union, Pike county, in his sixty-fifth year, his wife passing away at the age of sixty-three. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. To them were born eight children, namely: Harrison; Elizabeth married Richard Young, of Washington township, Gibson county; Maria was twice married, first to Stephen C. Swain and then to Edward Brown, and they lived in Pike county; John, a farmer in Pike county, married Nancy J. Hale; Vincent T., a farmer in Washington township, Gibson county; George, a merchant at Princeton, married Dorcas

Hayden; Phoebe Ann married Robert Hayden and they live in Washington township, this county; Dicey J. is the widow of Barney McRoberts, of Washington township, this county.

The old-time log subscription schools were the source of Harrison White's early education and he lived on the home place until the outbreak of the Civil war, when he enlisted in Company G, Sixty-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, on July 15, 1862. After being at Evansville, Indiana, for a month, the command was sent to Henderson, Kentucky, for two weeks, and then ordered to Madisonville, that state, the company then doing duty all over Kentucky as guerilla scouts. Later they were dispatched to Knoxville, Tennessee, and were in the fighting at Bluntsville, Zollicoffer, Blair's Cross Roads, Mossy Creek, and numerous skirmishes, then falling back on Knoxville and engaging with General Longstreet until the Atlanta campaign. They were all through this campaign and remained with General Johnson until the fall of 1864. In the spring of 1865 they were sent to Washington, D. C., from there to Annapolis, Maryland, and then, on board ships, to Fort Fisher, and were engaged in the battles of Fort Anderson, Wilmington, Goldsboro and Raleigh, and were at the latter place at the time peace was declared. They were discharged June 23, 1865, and mustered out at Indianapolis. While in the service the subject was taken seriously ill at Madisonville, Kentucky, and was disabled from active duty for about six months.

After the war Mr. White located in Pike county, Indiana, on a farm which he had purchased previously, where he resided until 1870, when he sold his holdings and came to Washington township, Gibson county, and purchased forty-two acres of improved land, which he farmed for several years. This he also subsequently sold and bought property in Union, Indiana, living there six years, after which he again came to Washington township and purchased a small farm, where he engaged in agriculture until 1907, at that time removing to Princeton, where he has since resided.

Mr. White was first married September 6, 1865, to Sarah Owen, of Tennessee, and by this union were born the following children: George B., of Princeton, is a miner, and is the husband of Helen Morris; J. T., a farmer in Washington township, married Ava Gray; Everett, a farmer at Mt. Carmel, married Della West; Mary Ann married Elbert Brown, of Evansville, Indiana. Subject's first wife died in September, 1877, and for his second wife he married Anna E. Belcher, of Gibson county, one child, Dollie, resulting from this union. Mr. White's third marriage was to Maggie Slater, widow of Frank Slater, of Daviess county, Indiana. The fourth and present wife of

Mr. White was Bertha Elizabeth Jones, of Washington township, Gibson county, their marriage occurring November 7, 1896. She is a daughter of Vernando and Arlemetha Catharene (Phillips) Jones, he a farmer in Knox county, Indiana. This marriage has resulted in the birth of one child, Alex Royster, born February 4, 1903.

Harrison White is an honored member of Archer Post, Grand Army of the Republic, at Princeton, and in his political belief has always been a staunch Republican. In religious matters he is a member of the General Baptist church.

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### WILLIAM N. TICHENOR.

The history of him whose name heads this memorial sketch is closely identified with the history of Gibson county, Indiana, which was his home for so many years. He began his career in this locality in the pioneer epoch and throughout the subsequent years he was closely allied with its interests and upbuilding. His life was one of untiring activity and was crowned with a degree of success commensurate with his efforts. He was of the highest type of progressive citizen and none more than he deserves a fitting recognition among those whose enterprise and ability have achieved results that have awakened the admiration of those who knew him. The cause of humanity never had a truer friend than William N. Tichenor and in all the relations of life—family, church, state and society—he displayed that consistent spirit, that natural worth, which endeared him to all classes. His integrity and fidelity were manifested in every relation of life and his influence widely felt in the community honored by his citizenship.

William N. Tichenor was a native of Nelson county, Kentucky, the son of Daniel and Jane (Glover) Tichenor, who were born and raised in the same county and married upon reaching early years of maturity. Their births occurred respectively on May 5, 1802, and January 8, 1799. Daniel Tichenor was a mill man. Their son, William N., was born December 25, 1826, and soon thereafter, in 1836, they came to Gibson county, Indiana, and settled on a farm west of Princeton on the Owensville road. They were among the first settlers in that vicinity and secured wild land which they cleared and where they made their home for many years. Later on Daniel Tichenor added another farm to his possessions and devoted his entire attention to farming for the rest of his life. Two brothers, William and Ebenezer, accompanied him to Gibson county and obtained farming lands near him.



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM TICHENOR.



They too were successful farmers and prominent men in the community and all were highly esteemed. Daniel was originally a Democrat in politics, but later gave his support to the principles of the Republican party. His religious sympathies were with the Free-will Baptist church, of which he was a consistent member. To Daniel Tichenor and wife were born the following children, namely: Hannah, wife of Richard LaGrange, of Gibson county; William N., subject of this sketch; Timothy, a blacksmith, whose home was in Owensville; Jonah, a blacksmith at Princeton; Mary E. married Hiram Westfall, and the sixth child, Henry Thomas, a retired blacksmith, residing in Princeton, and the sole survivor of the family of children. Daniel Tichenor married a second time, upon the death of his first wife, and his death occurred in Princeton.

William N. Tichenor received only a common school education in the early schools of Gibson county and at the tender age of fourteen years was apprenticed or "bound over" to Thomas Ewing, a blacksmith of Princeton, to learn the trade of him. He remained with Mr. Ewing until he came of age, at which time he was given forty dollars in cash, his earnings for his season of apprenticeship, with which money he purchased himself decent clothing and started in the blacksmith business for himself. He later bought out Mr. Ewing and operated the shop for about fifteen years, when he purchased a farm a half-mile west of Princeton on what is now known as West Broadway. Here he put up a house and all improvements to make it an up-to-date farm. He had about three hundred acres in this place. Here he carried on general farming and raised and sold fine live stock. He also bought and shipped stock and in addition operated quite a dairy where his wife made and sold great quantities of butter and other milk products. He was a man of public spirit who took an active interest in the affairs of his community and county. He served as township trustee for several years and was also county treasurer two terms. He gave his support to the Republican party. In 1883 he retired from the farm and took up his residence in Princeton, where he was early induced to serve on the council. His sound judgment on all matters of interest was known and his advice often sought. He was a man of modest manner who sincerely sought to help his fellow men in whatever way became possible to him and in consequence had warm friends all over the county.

On October 1, 1849, Mr. Tichenor was united in marriage to Elizabeth Johnson, born October 12, 1828, on River DeShee, a daughter of Nicholas and Jane (Howe) Johnson. Her mother was a native of Kentucky and her

father was born in Knox county, Indiana. He was a farmer all his life and died near Lawrenceville, Illinois, at the age of fifty years. His wife died at the age of forty-five. They were both faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Their family comprised three children, as follows: James, who was a farmer and died at Dunkard Station, Indiana; Elizabeth, wife of the subject of this sketch, and Ellen, who married Bud Conner and died in Missouri.

To William N. Tichenor and wife were born the following children, namely: James Albert, deceased, a sketch of whose life appears elsewhere in this work; Daniel, who died in 1873, at the age of seventeen years; Henry, the present postmaster at Princeton, who is a large farmer and has been engaged in the real estate business. His wife was Ida Teague, of Princeton; Oliver Morton, who was drowned in Long Pond, Indiana, May 31, 1902. He left a widow, who was Mary Williams, a granddaughter of Governor Williams, and she is now living in Tacoma, Washington, and he also left one daughter, Jean Claire, of Terre Haute, Indiana. Oliver Morton Tichenor was one of the prominent men of Gibson county and had very, very many friends. He had been postmaster at Princeton, was connected with the P. D. & E. Railroad in Illinois, was also chief clerk in the revenue office at Terre Haute and was a veteran of the Cuban war. His early death cut short an interesting career.

William N. Tichenor continued to live in Princeton, loved and esteemed by all, until removed by death August 25, 1901. Mrs. Tichenor continues to reside at their old home on West and Emerson streets, loved and honored by all. The house in which she lives is one of the landmarks of Princeton and was built by Doctor Walling in 1852. It is of brick, with spacious rooms, eleven of which are finished in black walnut and the wood work all over the house was gotten out by hand. It is a suitable and beautiful setting for so charming an old lady as is Mrs. Tichenor.

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#### ALVIN WILSON.

It is a pleasure to investigate the career of a successful self-made man. Peculiar honor attaches to that individual who, beginning the great struggle of life alone or practically unaided, gradually overcomes unfavorable environment, removes one by one the obstacles from his pathway to success and by the force of his own individuality succeeds in forging his way to



the front and winning for himself a position of esteem and influence among his fellow men. Such is the record, briefly stated, of the popular and well-known cashier of the First National Bank at Oakland City, Indiana, to a brief synopsis of whose life and characteristics the following paragraphs are devoted.

Alvin Wilson, the popular and efficient cashier of the First National Bank of Oakland City, Indiana, was born on July 20, 1873, on a farm in Warrick county this state, and is a son of James and Sarah (Judd) Wilson, both natives of Kentucky. James Wilson, who was a farmer by vocation, came to Warrick county, Indiana, from his native state, being one of the first settlers in that community. Here he gained considerable prominence as a successful farmer and stock raiser and was numbered among the prominent and influential men of that locality. To him and his wife were born eight children, of whom four are living, namely: J. T., of Oakland City; Mrs. Lora Barker, of Warwick county, Indiana; Mrs. Sarah Pancake, of Pike county, Indiana, and the subject of this sketch. The mother of these children now lives in Oakland City.

Alvin Wilson received his education in the public schools of Oakland City, graduating from the high school in 1889. He immediately entered the First National Bank in the capacity of bookkeeper, from which position he was later promoted to that of assistant cashier, and in 1903 he became cashier of the bank. This institution was formerly known as the People's State Bank, and its history has been a splendid one, characterized by popularity and success all along the line. During the ten years in which Mr. Wilson has been the executive head of the institution it has attained a place among the foremost financial institutions of Gibson county, a large part of its success being directly attributable to the energetic methods and personal influence of its cashier. Since he became cashier the bank has more than doubled its business and as the president of this bank is a non-resident, the responsibility and the greater part of the work falls upon Mr. Wilson's shoulders. Mr. Wilson has been actively connected with the banking interests of Gibson county longer than any other man in the county, and holds high prestige among his business associates as a man of probity, honor and mature judgment.

On December 27, 1899, Mr. Wilson married Margaret E. Stewart, daughter of W. H. and Bertha Stewart, of Oakland City. Politically, Mr. Wilson is a Democrat and has served on the city school board, taking a deep interest in all educational matters, as well as all other phases of local life

affecting the welfare of his fellow citizens. Fraternally, he is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons, including all the degrees of the York Rite up to and including that of Knight Templar, and is also a member of the Mystic Shrine and the Knights of Pythias. Personally, he is a genial, obliging and broad-minded gentleman, who merits in every respect the high esteem in which he is universally held.

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### JOHN W. RITCHIE.

One of the influential citizens of Princeton, Indiana, is the gentleman to whose career the attention of the reader is now directed who is ranked with the city's leading merchants and representative citizens. A man of excellent endowments and upright character, he has been a valued factor in local affairs and has ever commanded unequivocal confidence and esteem, being loyal to the upbuilding of his community and ever vigilant in his efforts to further the interests of his city along material, moral and civic lines.

John W. Ritchie was born in Gibson county, Indiana, on January 25, 1879, and is a son of William and Vitula (Benton) Ritchie, the father a native of Crawford county, Indiana, and the mother of Gibson county. On the paternal side the subject is descended from Alexander Ritchie, a native of Glasgow, Scotland, who, after emigrating to this country, came to Leavenworth, Indiana, where he established a blacksmith shop. Eventually he moved to Crawford county, this state, where he continued his business and there spent the remainder of his days. The subject's father, who has been a life-long farmer in Gibson county, is still living, as is his wife, their residence being at King's Station, this county. To them were born twelve children, all of whom are living, namely: John W., the immediate subject of this sketch; Alexander, Katherine, William, Melvin, Myrtle, Charles, Clifford, Levi, Flora, Mary and May.

John W. Ritchie was reared under the parental roof, securing his education in the common schools of his home locality and completing his studies at Oakland City College. During the following six years he engaged in teaching school and then took a business course in the Indianapolis Business College. Upon the completion of his technical studies he entered the employ of the R. P. Moore Milling Company as bookkeeper and has remained with this concern continuously since, having for the

past six years served as secretary and treasurer of the company. He has been an important factor in the splendid success which has accompanied this business and is one of the most trusted and valued employees of the concern.

On May 24, 1908, Mr. Ritchie was united in marriage with Eva A. Williams, the daughter of Thomas P. and Tilitha (Wallace) Williams, both natives of Gibson county and representatives of early pioneer families.

Politically, Mr. Ritchie is a staunch Democrat, and fraternally he is an active member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Princeton. His religious connections are with the General Baptist church, to the support of which he gives liberally of his time and means. He has strongly supported every measure or movement which has promised to be of benefit to his community, and, because of his upright life, marked business ability and progressive tendencies, he has earned and enjoys the respect and confidence of the entire community.

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### THEODORE SASSE.

One of the best remembered business men of the past generation in Gibson county, Indiana, was the late Theodore Sasse, at the time of his death one of the largest landowners in the county. Of Mr. Sasse personally, it may be said that he was a man of strong and active sympathies; his temperament was warm and ardent, his feelings deep and intense, and these and other attractive characteristics unconsciously drew him an unusual number of devoted friends, upon whom, under all circumstances, he could rely, and who, now that he has passed from earthly scenes, revere his memory. He was a close student of human nature and comprehended with little effort the motives and purposes of men, and he was a lover of the truth and sincerity. In brief, he is remembered as a manly man, of pleasing but dignified presence, a student of many subjects and an influential man in the circles in which he moved. Of sound character and unflagging energy, he stood as a conspicuous example of symmetrically developed American manhood and his position as one of the community's representative citizens was conceded by all who knew him.

The late Theodore Sasse was born March 31, 1830, in Germany, the son of Rev. Christian and Louise (Kuestring) Sasse, neither of whom ever came to America. Theodore was educated in the schools of his native country and came to America when he was twenty years of age. He first landed at New Orleans, and then came up the Mississippi river and settled in Evansville, Indiana, where he clerked in a drug store for some time. With true German

thrift he saved his money and within four years he was in a position to open a general store at Buckskin, Gibson county, Indiana. He had the foresight to see that this rising village was a good trading point, and especially since the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad was being projected through the place at that time. In fact, Mr. Sasse was one of the promoters of the railroad, which was surveyed through in 1854, but owing to financial reverses the railroad was not built at this time; nevertheless the general store that Mr. Sasse started at Buckskin proved very successful. In addition to the general merchandising business which he carried on, he made money by buying and selling tobacco. He kept in operation a tobacco press and was probably the largest shipper in the county. His tobacco was shipped to Evansville by way of the Wabash and Erie canal until that canal was closed. By close application to his business affairs, Mr. Sasse acquired a very comfortable competence, but he did not allow his success as a business man to blind him to the moral and educational interests of his community. He took a great deal of interest in all the churches, and was a very generous giver to all the new churches in his community. He contributed heavily to the building of the first Evangelical church at Buckskin, which was the first church in that town.

Mr. Sasse was married twice, and has one daughter by his first wife, Albertine. She is a nurse in a hospital at Cincinnati, Ohio. Mr. Sasse's second marriage occurred on November 18, 1871, to Annette Buskuhl, the daughter of Frederick and Minna (Rieso) Buskuhl. Her father was a professor in the German schools. To this union four daughters were born, Mrs. Dr. V. H. Marchand, of Haubstadt, this county; Louise, who is living at home with her mother; Freda H., who is also at home, and Selma. The last three daughters live with their mother at home and have general charge of the large farm of more than thirteen hundred acres left by their father. Mr. Sasse died April 3, 1908, leaving an extensive estate, which is being successfully operated by his daughters, who also have the care of their invalid mother.

Mr. Sasse was a life-long Democrat, but had never sought any political office at the hands of his party. He was affiliated with the German Evangelical church religiously, and always contributed liberally to its support, taking an active interest in all the departments of its work.

Theodore Sasse had one brother, Emil, who came to this country in 1852, and subsequently entered into partnership with the subject of this sketch. They at one time owned more than two thousand acres of land in Bartholomew township. Several years ago Emil Sasse went back to Germany on a visit, and upon his return to this country, the ship caught fire and he and a

friend of his jumped into the water and swam for about eleven hours, when they were rescued by a passing vessel. Emil Sasse was married in 1883 to Caroline Dickmeyer. He always took a prominent part in Democratic politics and served during the seventies as trustee of Barton township, this county. Some time later he was elected to the office of county treasurer of Gibson county, and discharged the important duties of that office to the entire satisfaction of the citizens of the county. He and his brother, Theodore, were very successful in the general store which they operated for so many years at Buckskin.

The life of Theodore Sasse was such as to place him in a conspicuous position in the public eye of his township, and that which he did during his long life is too far-reaching to be measured in metes and bounds. He was certainly born to leadership, and the study of such a life cannot help but be an incentive to greater activity and higher excellence on the part of the coming generation. He was a long time one of the most prominent commercial factors in the affairs of his community, and in all his business enterprises he stood as an admirable type of the strictly self-made man, and left a name which all men who knew him delight to honor, owing to his upright life and his habits of industry.

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### GEORGE R. WELBORN.

This utilitarian age has been especially prolific in men of action, clear brained men of high resolves and noble purposes, who give character and stability to the communities honored by their citizenship, and whose influence and leadership are easily discernible in the various enterprises that have added so greatly to the high reputation which Gibson county enjoys among her sister counties of this great commonwealth. Conspicuous among this class of men whose place of residence is in this county is the progressive citizen whose name appears at the head of this brief review.

George R. Welborn, son of Francis M. and Lenora (Robb) Welborn, was born April 7, 1868, at Owensville, Indiana. (See sketch elsewhere in this volume of Francis M. Welborn.) George R. Welborn grew up in Owensville, completing his education in the common school and high school of that town, after which he entered DePauw University, from which institution he graduated in 1891 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. He afterwards took a law course and graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Laws, after which he went to Indianapolis to open up practice at the bar, but his father's health

failing, he returned to Owensville in 1894 and took charge of his father's business. He was very successful from the start, and in 1900 the business had so increased that he felt justified in erecting a modern business block. In that year he built a handsome brick two-story business block, all of which is devoted exclusively to general merchandising business. His store is equipped with all the latest improvements in the way of show cases and fixtures and conveniences which are used by stores in much larger towns.

Mr. Welborn was married in 1893 to Lillian Heston, daughter of Joseph Heston, and was born and reared near Princeton, and to this union was born one child, who died in infancy. Mrs. Welborn died on March 22, 1910. In January, 1913, Mr. Welborn married Anna Siebras, a native of this county.

Fraternally, Mr. Welborn is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons and Knights of Pythias, and takes an active interest in the affairs of both organizations. He is an example of the modern business man who brings into his business relations all those qualities which stand for better citizenship. His college career is of undoubted advantage to him and places him in a position which enables him to do a great deal for his community. He has no ambition for public position, but devotes all of his time and attention to his increasing business. He has contributed much to the material advancement of his locality, while his admirable qualities of head and heart and his upright, straightforward daily life have helped the moral standing of the circle in which he moves, and gives him a reputation for integrity and correct conduct among the citizens of the community favored by his residence.

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### J. C. PATTEN, M. D.

A review of the life of the honored subject of this memoir must of necessity be brief and general in its character. To enter fully into the interesting details of the career of the late J. C. Patten, M. D., touching the struggles of his early manhood and the success of his later years, would far transcend the limits of this article. He filled a large place in the ranks of the active, energetic and public-spirited citizens of his day and generation, and the memories which attached to his name and character form no inconsiderable chapter in the history of the county where he did his work and achieved his success.

J. C. Patten was born November 28, 1823, the son of Dr. Hugh Henry Patten. The father was born April 30, 1796, the son of James Patten, Sr.,



DR. AND MRS. J. C. PATTEN.





the latter having been born November 6, 1744, and died February 3, 1818. James Patten, Sr., emigrated from England in early colonial days with his family and settled in the state of Pennsylvania. He was deeply interested in the struggle for the independence of his adopted country and spent his entire fortune in behalf of the cause of our forefathers. After the close of the Revolutionary war he removed to Tennessee, in which state Dr. Hugh Henry Patten was born, his birth occurring near Clarksville, Montgomery county. In 1804 the family removed to Indiana and settled on Green River island, above Evansville, where they started the making of a home, when an unusually destructive freshet came down the river, sweeping over the island, destroying crops, drowning cattle, and leaving the settlers there destitute. The Patten family, seeking higher ground, camped for a while on the site of Evansville's business district, where they endured great suffering in the severe weather of that winter. However, game was plentiful and they lived principally on it and corn-bread made of corn beaten in the hollowed-out stump of a tree. Lye hominy was added to this fare. At this period there were but one or two houses on the river between Evansville and Vincennes, and the pioneers of that time on leaving their cabins went heavily armed and generally accompanied by their dogs as a protection against the Indians. The women also carried guns with them whenever they ventured any distance from the cabins, and many of them became expert in the use of these weapons. While the red men were greatly in the majority in this community at that time, they never gave any serious trouble, later, however, becoming more hostile as the number of settlers increased. Men's clothing was made principally of hides, the skin of the deer being generally chosen, as it was the best suited for traveling through the dense underbrush.

The subject's father received his elementary education under the tutelage of Rev. James McGready and Daniel Comfort, of Henderson, Kentucky, and later, in 1816, entered Napan Hall, Princeton College, New Jersey, and on graduating in 1820 received the degree of Bachelor of Arts from the university and the American Whig Society conferred on him the literary and scientific degree and title of Fellow of the American Whig Society. Following the completion of his college course he took charge of the Warren County (Kentucky) Seminary, later chartered as a college, in which he was professor of mathematics. After several terms as an educator, the subject's father resigned, and on October 16, 1822, he was united in marriage with Jane Moore, the daughter of Samuel Barclay, Sr., of Bowling Green, Kentucky. After his resignation from the professorship, he was ordained a min-

ister of the Presbyterian church and served on the board of domestic missions until his health failed, owing to hard labor and exposure. In 1834 Dr. H. H. Patten removed to Indiana and in 1838 commenced the practice of medicine, which he continued until 1868, taking time from his professional duties to preach whenever the occasion appeared.

Dr. J. C. Patten, the subject of this biographical review, was born in Russellville, Tennessee, and accompanied his parents when they came to the Hoosier state. His early education was acquired in the schools of Princeton, on the completion of which he began the study of medicine in the office of Dr. William G. Helm, a brother of Governor Helm, of Kentucky. He subsequently attended the Evansville Medical College, from which he graduated in 1850, and his first location as a practitioner was in Dale, Indiana, where he continued until the outbreak of the war between the states, at which time he volunteered his services and went to the front as a surgeon, being sent by Governor Morton to aid in caring for the Indiana troops after the battle of Corinth and later was commissioned assistant surgeon of the Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, attached to Sherman's pontoon train. He served in this capacity from 1864 until the close of the war, after which he actively engaged in the practice of his profession, being very successful in building up a splendid practice. Of a modest and retiring nature, he was one of the successful men of his day and became the owner of considerable property, valuable farm lands in the Wabash valley being among his holdings.

On August 6, 1852, Dr. J. C. Patten was married to Louisa Marstella, who was born on May 30, 1835, in Baltimore, Maryland, the daughter of Capt. Ferdinand and Elizabeth (Walker) Marstella. The mother of the subject's wife first met Capt. Ferdinand Marstella while on the way across the ocean from England as a passenger on the boat which he commanded. On landing in America they were married. In 1844 the Captain was lost with his ship in the Gulf of Mexico and his wife died in Mexico.

To the subject and wife were born eight children, namely: Hugh died in infancy; Samuel is engaged in business at Long Beach, California; Morgan lives in El Paso, Texas, being employed in the railroad shops; Jane Moore is at home; Elizabeth married Grant Mason, who died April 28, 1913; Gilbert is deceased; Annie is now Mrs. Lockwood; Lewis lives in Denver, Colorado, and is a traveling salesman.

When the Doctor began the practice of medicine at the close of the Civil war the community was without roads or bridges, and the long trips through the wild country visiting patients were made on horseback, it not even being

possible to use a buggy in the work. Undaunted by privations and hardships of this nature, the subject was ever faithful to his chosen vocation and eventually became one of the leading medical men of his day.

In Mrs. Patten's family there were two children, of whom but Mrs. J. C. Patten is now living. Her brother, Leslie K. Marstella, who lived in Beebe, Arkansas, died on February 8, 1914, he being but three years younger than Mrs. Patten. While in the Civil war he was aide to General Hovey, and while crossing in front of the enemy his horse was shot and fell upon him, causing him serious injury, from which he has suffered for many years, having been paralyzed for a long time.

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### LEMUEL EMMERSON.

It cannot be other than interesting to note in the series of personal sketches appearing in this work the varying conditions that have compassed those whose careers are outlined, and the effort that has been made in each case to throw well focused light on the individuality and to bring into proper perspective the scheme of each respective career. Each man who strives to fulfill his part in connection with human life and human activities is deserving of recognition, whatever may be his field of endeavor, and it is the function of works of this nature to perpetuate for future generations an authentic record concerning those represented in its pages, and the value of such publications is certain to be cumulative for all time to come, showing forth the individual and specific accomplishments of which generic history is ever engendered.

Lemuel Emmerson, who many years ago passed to that undiscovered bourne from whence no traveler returns, was born in Kentucky, and was the son of Hon. Jesse Emmerson. The latter came from Lincoln county, Kentucky, to Gibson county, Indiana, on April 10, 1809, locating on what is now known as the John Martin place, between Princeton and Owensville, being one of the earliest settlers of that locality. He and his family floated down the Ohio river on flatboats to Evansville, from there coming to Princeton, their first camp being on the present site of Judge Lamb's residence. At that time but little settlement had been made in that locality, the land being covered by a dense forest. Jesse Emmerson had been born near Culpeper, Virginia, in 1767, and it is noteworthy that one of his family, Henry T., is now an inmate of the Soldiers' Home at Lafayette, Indiana, being about eighty years of age; thus two generations of this family have witnessed every change

in the history of the American colonies and states since the war of the Revolution. Jesse Emmerson was a farmer by vocation and a man of considerable influence in his community, having served as the first judge of the county court. He married Elizabeth Emmerson, probably a cousin, and to them were born fourteen children, twelve sons and two daughters, of whom five were deaf and dumb, including the immediate subject of this sketch. Of these fourteen children, Henry T., above referred to, is the only one living. After the death of his first wife, Jesse Emmerson married Hetty Blythe.

Lemuel Emmerson, being a mute, had but little chance to secure an education, but being ambitious he became, through his own efforts, well informed and proved to be a man of more than ordinary intelligence. He possessed business ability of a high order and was successful in his own affairs, being an enterprising and progressive farmer of Patoka township, this county, where his death occurred on December 12, 1845. In 1832 Mr. Emmerson married Mrs. Nancy Harrell, the widow of Warner Harrell and daughter of James and Nancy (Drikey) Dugan. James Dugan died in Tennessee and later his widow came to Gibson county, and after the marriage of her daughter to Lemuel Emmerson, she became the wife of Stephen Sanders, of Kentucky. By her marriage to Mr. Harrell, Mrs. Emmerson was the mother of two children, Hannah Minerva and Albert. By her union with Lemuel Emmerson were born the following children, Mary Elizabeth, born in Patoka township, was married in 1854, to Charles Mead, of Gibson county, a farmer. He enlisted in Company E, Eightieth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served his country valiantly for three years. After his return from the war he again farmed in Patoka township, and later went to Brown county, Nebraska, but eventually came back to Gibson county, locating first at Oakland City and later at Fort Branch, where his death occurred in 1908. He was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic at Fort Branch and, religiously, was affiliated with the General Baptist church. He was well known in this county and highly respected by all. On November 12, 1912, his widow moved to Oakland City, where she has since lived. They became the parents of four children, all of whom died young. James Reuben Emmerson, who was born on the old Emmerson farm in Patoka township on December 25, 1837, lived at Fort Branch, this county, and also in Wabash county, Illinois. In November, 1912, he located with his sister, Mrs. Mead, at Oakland City. He has been a farmer and also for about sixteen years has done considerable carpenter work. On March 29, 1860, he married Amanda J. Montgomery, of Patoka township, this county, whose death occurred in 1903, and to their union

were born eight children, namely: Ida E. was twice married, first to Joseph Jones, and second to Jacob Green, with whom she now lives at Evansville, Indiana; Charles W., who is a carpenter at Fort Branch, married Allie Rule; Lemuel M., of Riddle, Oregon, is a miner and is unmarried. He was a member of the United States army. Lucy and Lillie died unmarried; Elzora Jane married Mr. Rice and lives at Evansville, Indiana; a son and daughter died in infancy; Hannah Jane, the third child born to Lemuel and Nancy Emmerson, became the wife of George A. Rutter, of Oakland City, and is now deceased; Melissa is the wife of Henry Vickers, a Civil war veteran, and she now resides at Oakland City; Lemuel O., of Oakland City, is referred to specifically elsewhere in this volume. All the members of this family are affiliated with the General Baptist church, and are Republican in their political views.

Perhaps the dominant and most notable characteristic of Lemuel Emmerson was his fidelity to truth and honor. He invariably sought the things that were honest and of good repute, teaching his children that honor and truthfulness were of such commanding worth that self-interest should never under any circumstances set them aside. His life was an inspiration to all who knew him and his memory remains to his children as a blessed benediction of a noble and upright life.

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### JONATHAN E. CLARK.

The following is a brief sketch of one who, by close attention to business, has achieved marked success in the world's affairs and risen to an honorable position among the enterprising men of Gibson county, with which his interests have long been identified. Jonathan E. Clark is one of those estimable characters whose integrity and strong personality must force them into an admirable notoriety, which their modesty never seeks, who command the respect of their contemporaries and their posterity and leave the impress of their lives and their individuality upon the age in which they live.

Jonathan E. Clark was born August 25, 1848, at Henry Duncan Hill, Patoka township, Gibson county, Indiana, the son of Cornelius and Mahala (Young) Clark. The father was born near Bardstown, Nelson county, Kentucky, and the mother in Christian county of the same state, the elder Clark being a son of Thomas Clark, of Fairfax county, Virginia, and Mahala Young's father was Caleb Young, of Union county, Pennsylvania.

The subject's great-grandfather Clark was born in the lowlands of Scotland, emigrating to America and, as stated, locating in Virginia, while one of his brothers who accompanied him to this country settled in the South. The grandfather, Thomas Clark, was a farmer. During the struggle for independence he enlisted from Fairfax county, on October 10, 1777, and was assigned to the Tenth Virginia Regiment, Captain Conrad's company. This command spent the following fall and winter at Mt. Vernon, protecting the estate of Gen. George Washington. In the late summer of 1778 they were transferred to Pennsylvania, and took part in the battle of Brandywine, where Thomas Clark was wounded. At the conclusion of two years' faithful service in the colonial army he received an honorable discharge, ranking as an orderly sergeant at the time of his muster out, the seriousness of his wound precluding his further service in the struggle. Subsequently he was married to Eleanor Mansfield and they emigrated to Kentucky, where he pre-empted land on a soldier's certificate in the district known at that time as Taggart county, but which was later subdivided. Many of his comrades attempted to enter land on soldiers' certificates, but their claims were not recognized on account of some fault in their papers. His being perfect, however, he secured his land, established a home and there passed the balance of his life, being a prominent man in his community, known familiarly among his friends as "Uncle Tom" Clark. He died in his fifty-sixth year, in 1806. His sons were Abe, Thomas, Zachariah and Cornelius. Of these, two, Thomas and Zachariah, were with General Jackson at New Orleans. Thomas took part in the Indian wars in Indiana during Tecumseh's time. Zachariah, at the time he joined General Jackson, was but seventeen years of age and not subject to draft, but he went as a substitute for a "brave" man who was drafted but didn't want to go. The man for whom he substituted gave him one hundred dollars and forty acres of land.

The subject's father, Cornelius Clark, who was well acquainted with General Jackson and had met him personally many times, came to Indiana in 1821 and settled on Henry Duncan Hill, Gibson county, his wife passing away two or three years after his arrival in the Hoosier state. He remained on the "Hill" for twelve years, when he removed to Marsh Creek, west of Turkey Hill, where he passed the remainder of his days. Being a great reader and having a remarkable memory, he was the historian of the district, his neighbors looking to him for the records of the early days. His death occurred in his fifty-seventh year as the result of an accident. Of a family of eleven children whom he raised, four are now living.

Jonathan E. Clark, the subject of this sketch, was the eighth child and spent his boyhood days in Patoka township. At the age of eighteen years he decided to strike out for himself and went West, and the next eight years of his life were spent in Nebraska, where he was employed in carrying the mails on horseback. While thus engaged he had many exciting experiences, on two different occasions being attacked by highwaymen, but both times he was successful in reaching his gun first and putting the would-be robbers to flight. After leaving Nebraska he spent a month in Wyoming, which was "wild and woolly" at that early date, then returned east, stopping several months in northern Illinois, and finally coming back to Gibson county, Indiana, where he engaged in farming.

On October 25, 1874, the subject was united in the holy bonds of matrimony to Mary F. Montgomery, daughter of John Montgomery, of Montgomery township, Gibson county, the son of Robert Montgomery, who was born in Delaware, later removing to Georgia and finally to Gibson county, Indiana, in 1910. To the subject and wife have been born two children, Cora, who married John A. Boren, and Essie, who is living at home.

Mr. Clark has made several trips to the homes of his ancestors and has in his possession a number of very valuable relics, among them being a cane cut on the estate of General Jackson, also some corn grown on the same place, the Jackson home place now being kept up by the Daughters of the Revolution. During one of his trips to this historic spot, the subject met the last surviving slave of the general, an old negro named Alfred, who was ninety-eight years of age when Mr. Clark met him. He was quite an interesting character, being full of reminiscences and being able to name all of the General's famous visitors and to give the history of the heirlooms. The subject has always taken a keen interest in the history of pioneer days and his remarkable memory and wide reading have equipped him as an authority on these matters.

Mr. Clark has a fine farm of one hundred acres, under a good state of cultivation, and takes justifiable pride in his live stock and horses. He has never taken an active interest in politics, being content to exercise his franchise for the candidates who in his judgment will make the best public servants, and leaving the oftentimes unreasoning enthusiasm of the struggle for office to those so inclined. He is a Democrat. The subject's wife is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church.



## GEORGE WASHINGTON SHULL.

The respect which should always be accorded to the brave sons of the North who left homes and the peaceful pursuits of civil life to give their services, and their lives if need be, to preserve the integrity of the American Union is certainly due the gentleman to a brief review of whose life the following lines are devoted. He proved his love and loyalty to the government on the long and tiresome marches in all kinds of situations, exposed to summer's withering sun and winter's freezing cold, on the lonely picket line a target for the unseen foe, on the tented field and amid the flame and smoke of battle, where the rattle of musketry, mingled with the terrible concussion of the bursting shell and the deep diapason of the cannon's roar, made up the sublime but awful chorus of death. Among these valiant defenders of the Union and Old Glory was the subject of this sketch, and he is eminently entitled to representation in a work of this character.

George Washington Shull was born in Cedarville, Ohio, January 26, 1841, the son of Daniel and Margaret (Good) Shull, natives of the Keystone state. Daniel Shull's father was named George Shull, and he was a son of a soldier in the Revolutionary war. George Shull moved to Virginia, where he remained the rest of his days, following farming, the subject's father being a boy at the time of the family's removal to the Old Dominion. He spent his early life there, reached maturity and was married, and after three children had been born to this union they removed to Ohio, in which state seven more children were born, making a family of ten, five sons and five daughters. The father spent an active life and was employed at various occupations, reaching the extreme age of ninety-three years.

The subject of this review was the sixth child in the family, and passed his boyhood in Ohio, remaining at home until August 13, 1862, when he enlisted in Company D, Forty-fourth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, commanded by Col. Samuel Gilbert and Capt. L. W. Tully, the company being mustered in at Springfield, Ohio. The regiment had been organized eleven months previous to Mr. Shull's enlistment, and those who enlisted at the time Mr. Shull did were to serve and retire at the same time that those did who had joined previously. However, when the three years expired the subject and those who entered the service with him had nothing to show that their term was also completed. They were permitted to return to their homes for a visit, but had to rejoin the army and complete the balance of their time.

From Springfield the troops with which Mr. Shull was enlisted were





MR. AND MRS. GEORGE W. SHULL.



sent first to Cincinnati and from there up the Ohio river to Maysville, Kentucky, proceeding from there to Lexington, having a skirmish below Maysville, and joining their regiment at Lexington, went with it to Frankfort, where they were encamped for the winter. The following summer was spent in various parts of the Blue Grass state, putting down frequent uprisings, they being mounted infantry at the time. In September, 1863, they were organized in a division of some twenty thousand men, under General Burnside. After a number of skirmishes, they were hemmed in at Knoxville, Tennessee, by a force under General Longstreet, where they were forced to remain inactive for five or six weeks. However, expecting General Sherman to arrive soon with reinforcements, General Longstreet decided to delay no longer and made a charge, hoping to take them prisoners before the arrival of Sherman. This attack was decidedly unsuccessful, he being repulsed with great loss, and, Sherman coming nearer next day, Longstreet withdrew into Virginia, being hotly pursued by the forces under Burnside. On the return from this chase to Strawberry Plains, Tennessee, the term of enlistment of the Forty-fourth Infantry had expired, but with very few exceptions the men of the regiment re-enlisted, they being mustered in this time as the Eighth Ohio Cavalry, under command of Capt. Frank E. Moores. Returning for a brief period to Camp Dennison, Ohio, to complete the reorganization, they were then sent to Charleston, West Virginia, and from that city to various parts of the state, being constantly on the march and having at least one skirmish a day. At Bunker Hill, between Winchester and Martinsburg, the subject was wounded on September 3, 1864, a bullet practically going entirely through his body. He was taken to Martinsburg, and, his case being considered hopeless, he was practically given up for dead. However, he recovered sufficiently in about two months to be removed to Sandy Hook, Maryland, from there being transferred to Little York, Pennsylvania, where he was given a furlough of twenty days to go home, which he did. When the time was up, however, instead of returning to the hospital at Little York, he proceeded to Beverly, West Virginia, and rejoined his regiment. The following morning they were attacked by the Confederates and four hundred and eighty men were taken prisoners, Mr. Shull being among the number. They were taken by their captors to Staunton and then to Richmond, where they were thrown into Libby prison, being in that noted place but a short time, when they were removed to Crew & Pemberton's tobacco warehouse, just across the street from the prison. In this typical Southern prison pen the

subject and his comrades were confined for about three months. Food was scarce, conditions unsanitary and treatment bad, and it is astonishing that Mr. Shull, in his weakened condition, due to his wound, stood it. After three long and trying months they were exchanged and taken to Annapolis, Maryland, and from there sent to Camp Chase, Ohio, where they were granted a furlough of thirty days. Even after this long period the subject's wound was seriously troubling him, pieces of bone continuing to come out of his side. At the expiration of his furlough, Mr. Shull and his companions rejoined their old command at Beverly, Virginia, but, their term of enlistment soon expiring, and the war being practically over, they were sent to Columbus, Ohio, where Mr. Shull was honorably discharged as corporal of Company D, Eighth Ohio Cavalry, and was mustered out. Mr. Shull was in the following battles: Lewisburg, Virginia, Mossy Creek, Lynchburg, Winchester, Beverly, Harper's Ferry, Martinsburg, Blain's Cross Roads, Bunker's Hill, Moorfield, Piedmont, Flat Rock, Kentucky, Hickman, Dutton Hill, Cumberland Gap, Tennessee, Loudon, Knoxville and Cedar Creek. After spending a month at his home, he came to Indiana and located at Princeton, Gibson county, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits, which he followed continuously up until his retirement.

On March 7, 1866, Mr. Shull was married to Minerva L. Finney, daughter of J. K. and Laurina Finney, who were early settlers in the Hoosier state. To this union were born six children, namely: John K. resides in Indianapolis; Nellie L., now Mrs. Lowe, lives in Evansville, Indiana; Addie is now Mrs. Henry Lowe, and lives at Fort Branch; Burton O. makes his home in Belleville, Illinois; Zella Z. is Mrs. Blessing, and resides in Cleveland, Ohio; Lola C. is at home.

Mr. Shull has taken an active part in the affairs of his county and has been honored by his fellow citizens many times. He served as supervisor of his township and for four years was a member of the town board, having also been treasurer of Gibson county for one term, in all of which positions of trust he acquitted himself in a creditable manner and to the entire satisfaction of his constituents. For the last twenty-five years Mr. Shull has taken an active interest in the Gibson County Agricultural Fair Association and has held all the offices in that body with the exception of president and general superintendent. He is a member of the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic. His interest and activities in so many lines are all the more remarkable when it is noted that he has suffered a great deal on account of the wound received while in the army. However, his mind has risen superior to

this bodily handicap and he has filled a large and important place in his community.

Mr. Shull and his family occupy a splendid modern residence in Fort Branch, where he is now living in honorable retirement after a long life of strenuous and successful endeavor. Religiously, they are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Fort Branch, while, politically, Mr. Shull has always been a Republican and active in local public affairs.

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#### DAVID STORMONT.

Having been requested to contribute some reminiscences relating to the late David Stormont and his times, I have here endeavored to recount some of the happenings of past days and thus throw some light on many events which have probably passed from the memory of even those who knew of them.

As to David Stormont's relations with the "underground railroad," I have heard him say that he always fed the hungry and clothed the naked, and that when the slave came to his house on his way North, he fed and clothed him. I have heard father say that it was very hard for him to get No. 12 shoes sometimes, the fact that he often had to do without causing suspicion that he was not buying them for his own family. At one time two young colored men came to his house, and he put them to work hoeing corn with himself in a field not far from the house. Soon a stranger was seen riding up the lane and one of the young men said it was his master, who, however, rode on by without recognizing his slave. The colored boys told their story, which was to the effect that they had swam the Ohio river, their clothes being tied on the back of their necks. On reaching the northern shore and when about to redress, they were frightened by the approach of some one and ran away, leaving their clothes. They succeeded in getting other clothing elsewhere, and it was doubtless because of this change in their clothing that their master did not recognize them. At another time a colored refugee was in my father's back yard when he saw his master pass the house on horseback. At another time I remember a white man and a negro came to my father's and asked for a lot of things, especially money, but father, deeming them spies, gave them nothing. A man who had been directed to father's house was asked when he had first heard of this house as a station on the "underground railroad," and he said that he had heard of it back in Georgia before he left

home. At another time father and mother went to spend the day with a friend some distance from home, and when they got there they found a slave tied in the kitchen. My mother got them to release him, but eventually he was sent back to his master. Many others, perhaps hundreds, passed by that way, all of whom he fed if hungry and clothed if naked. When the slave hunters or masters came along, he also fed them, and when they inquired as to directions he pointed them to the North star, but they got little information from him as to the next station on the "underground railroad." Sometimes they threatened to take him out and whip him or kill him if he did not tell where he had negroes hid, and they watched his house for weeks at a time trying to get proof of his harboring negroes. At one time, it must have been about 1854 or 1855, he went one evening, just before dark, to see a sick neighbor. He was on horseback and suddenly came across a party of ten or a dozen men, whose horses were tied and who were plentifully supplied with whiskey. They were having a very social time and were feeling pretty good. While there, one of them confided in father that they were intending that night to go to his house, take him out and whip him in an effort to make him tell where he had negroes hidden. (As a matter of fact, he had none hidden at that time.) He went on to see his sick Democratic friend, who was a true friend to him, and sat up with him a short time. He told what he had heard and seen and that he was going home. It was arranged that he should ride over fields and get into his house by the back way. However, after riding part of the way, he turned his horse loose and proceeded the rest of the way on foot, succeeding in getting into the house in safety. He then acquainted my mother with the situation, and said that he would sit at the east window, with rifle in hand, and that as fast as he fired she was to hand him a loaded gun and reload the empty rifle. He said he would surely get some of them, for he intended to shoot to kill. The next morning the boys rode a ways up the road and found where the gang's horses had been tied, indications being that they had remained there a good part of the night. Father had made arrangements to be away from home the next night, but some of us thought he had better not go. However, he said he intended to go about his business just as he used to. So he armed himself and went on his way as if he had nothing on his mind. During this time my mother never let the fire die out in the stove, for she said if their enemies came around and did not behave themselves just right she would scald their eyes out; to this end, she always kept a boiler full of hot water on the stove. However, they were never permitted to seriously molest father or any of his family, though sometimes shots were fired over our heads from the big hill back of the house.

About this time my brother Joseph was standing near a crowd of men in Princeton and father came along, stopping to shake hands and speak to each of the men, who said, "How do you do, Uncle David," as he was generally known throughout the community. After he left one of the men said to another, "I could cut his heart out, the old abolitionist." Brother told father what the man had said, but would never tell him who said it.

In those days it meant much to openly avow one's self in favor of abolition, and at first but few did so.

Regarding these incidents, I was asked the question, "What recompense was there for your father in all this? Why would he spend his time and money and risk his property and the lives of his family and himself for such a cause?" Now, to answer these questions, why was it that my forefathers left Scotland, at the time of the Reformation, when many Presbyterians were put to death because they would not worship according to the dictates of the King. They believed that they had the right to worship God according to the dictates of their own consciences. Their ministers were not allowed to preach or hold meetings, at the risk of being hunted down and shot to death or burned at the stake. It was then that my forefathers became Dissenters—that is, they neither voted nor held office. Then they entered into a covenant with God, promising that if he would do certain things for them they would likewise perform certain things for God, and from this they became known as Covenanters. Then, rather than deny their God, or be persecuted for their belief, they left Scotland and settled in Ireland. Was not that done for principle's sake? And why was it that my grandfather, Samuel Stormont, at about the time of the Revolutionary war, left Belfast, Ireland, and settled in Chester district, South Carolina. And why was it that he did not accept a large estate willed to him by an uncle, General Stormont, a bachelor. Grandfather said he would have none of the ill-gotten gains of his uncle, who was on the wrong side, fighting for England against the United States, although at that time my grandfather, David Stormont, was poor and needed money badly? Then when grandfather saw the evils of slavery and when he came to his death bed, he said to his wife, "You make one sale and sell everything here and move to Indiana," for he did not want his family reared in a slave state. They disposed of everything excepting forty acres of land (and which they never afterwards realized anything on) and in the spring of 1811 started on their long journey. Their effects were loaded into a one-horse cart, and the family comprised eight children, the oldest of whom was a girl about twenty years old and the youngest, a boy of five years. Reaching Kentucky, they stopped for about a year at the home of a cousin, Mr. Hage-

wood. In the fall of 1812 they came to Princeton, settling near where the Archer cemetery is now. Soon afterwards they bought land and located about a mile further west on land now owned by the writer. Father was then about ten years old, and, with the other members of the family, had to work very hard to make a living, for which reason also he had but little chance for securing an education. Then again, what caused my father, in 1833, when there was a separation in the Reformed Presbyterian church, to remain faithful to the old church, he and his wife being the only ones who did not join the New-Lights the first Sabbath. The second Sabbath he and his brother Robert and their families held prayer-meeting. Principle was back of all this. What caused my father to befriend the low, degraded, down-trodden negro? Was it for financial profit or the applause of men? No, for at that time the most unpopular doctrine imaginable was that of abolitionism, that all men are created free and equal.

Well, you say, what kind of religion had he? What church did he belong to, and what was his doctrine and creed? He belonged to the Reformed Presbyterian church (Old Light), the fruit of a long line of Dissenters, who neither voted nor held office. They neither held office nor voted because to hold office they had to take an immoral oath. The oath which the President is required to take does not contain the name of God, and the Constitution, as we believe, is unchristian. It says, "We, the people," and does not give God and Christ the glory that is due his name. We believe that Christ is King of Kings and Lord of Lords, and we think the Constitution should acknowledge Him as such. Then the laws are not in accordance with the laws of God. For instance, in slavery days they arrested a negro, who was trying to get to Canada, and tried him according to the laws of Indiana, which laws would send him back into slavery; whereas, we believed that the white man had no right to hold the negro as a slave, according to the word of God. As we were bound to obey God's law rather than those of men, we, as Dissenters, could not sit as jurors. As to taking the oaths of office, many of these oaths we could not take; for instance, that of county commissioner, who is sworn to carry out the laws pertaining to his office. There comes a man who has fulfilled the requirements of the law regarding his character, and the commissioner, under his oath, is bound to grant that man a license to sell liquor. We deem it wrong to deal in that which kills both soul and body, therefore we could not hold such an office, neither could we vote for some one else who would be compelled to take an oath to do what we could not do ourselves. The question is asked why the undersigned did not vote in 1912 to put the saloons out of Princeton for the next two years, when I believe so strongly



in prohibition. It was because of principle. If we vote we become a part of the government and a part of the governing body. We claim to be a part of the nation, as we were born here, but we do not become a part of the government until we exercise the right to vote and hold office. Consequently, we are Dissenters.

RILEY STORMONT.

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THOMAS ALFRED MANGRUM.

Among the farmers of Gibson county, Indiana, who believe in following twentieth century methods is Thomas Alfred Mangrum, of Union township, his family on both sides dating back to the pioneer days of the county and state, and has always been known for right living and industrial habits, for education and morality, and for all that contributes to the welfare of the commonwealth. Such people are always welcome in any community, for they are empire builders and as such have pushed the frontier of civilization ever westward and onward, leaving the green, wide-spreading wilderness and the far-stretching plains populous with contented people and beautiful green fields. The Mangrum, Emerson and Montgomery families are among the oldest and best respected people of this county. They have figured largely in its development, and their many descendants have contributed to the material advancement of the community. Their neighbors and acquaintances all respect them, and the young generation who is to come will listen with reverence to the story of the lives of such people as these. They have always been the advocates of wholesome living and cleanliness in politics as well, and have always stood for the highest and best interests of the community in which they have lived. The subject of this sketch has always exerted a strong influence for good in his locality, being a man of upright principles and desirous of seeing the advancement of his community along moral, educational and material lines. He is a man of high moral character, unimpeachable integrity, persistent industry and excellent business judgment, and throughout the locality where he has lived all his life he occupies an enviable position among his fellow men, among whom he is universally esteemed for his many good qualities. The study of such a life cannot but be of help to the young people who are now growing into maturity in this county.

Thomas Alfred Mangrum spent his boyhood days on the home farm, following the career which falls to the lot of the average country youth. He was married on March 23, 1884, to Anna L. Emerson, of Johnson township, this county. She was the daughter of James Logan and Nancy (Mounts)

Emerson. Mr. Emerson was born in 1817, and his wife February 21, 1821, and they were united in marriage November 7, 1839, and reared their family on a farm about five miles south of Owensville in Johnson township. Mr. Emerson was one of the best farmers in the county, and was recognized as one of the leading citizens. The public schools never had a more loyal supporter than he, and his children received the best education which the county could give. Several of them became teachers in after life. Mr. Emerson's grandmother was a sister to General Logan, of Revolutionary fame. Mr. Emerson was public-spirited and always ready to assist young men to make a start in life. He often loaned them money without security and depended upon their honor and integrity to repay them. It is doubtful whether his confidence was ever betrayed. He had an interesting way of giving money to his children. When each of them reached the age of twenty-one he gave them one thousand dollars and took their note for the same. Mr. and Mrs. Emerson reared a large family of children, three of whom died in infancy. Mrs. Mangrum, the wife of the subject of this sketch, was the eleventh child. Mrs. Emerson came of one of the pioneer families of the state. Her father, Garret Mounts, was a man of great physical strength, and was noted for his many sterling qualities of character, being one of the prominent citizens of the county. He married Patsy Montgomery, daughter of Joseph Montgomery, Sr., December 14, 1819.

Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Mangrum were the parents of three children, Cloyd, who is married and living on a farm in Montgomery township; Ida, who married George C. May, of Salt Lake City, Utah, and Ola, who is still living under the parental roof. Mr. Mangrum continued to live on his father's farm for some time after his marriage, and when his father retired from active work on the farm and moved to Owensville he rented the farm for four years. He proved to be a very successful farmer and was enabled to purchase a farm of his own. In 1891 he moved southwest of Owensville, Indiana, and in 1894 to his present farm, the Bailey Williams place. The last one hundred acres which he bought commanded the highest price which was ever paid for land in this county, and he considers that the land was well worth the one hundred and sixty dollars per acre which he paid for it. His principal crop is corn, which he feeds to hogs, and he makes a specialty of raising the Hampshire breed of swine, considering them the best that can be raised for the market. He does not deal exclusively in hogs, but also raises horses and cattle for the market. His present farm comprises about three hundred acres, all in a good state of cultivation.

Mr. Mangrum is a loyal and earnest member of the General Baptist

church, while his wife is affiliated with the Christian church, and are liberal contributors to the support of their respective churches and take an active part in all the various departments of church work. Politically he is a Progressive, though in local elections he always votes for the best men for office, regardless of politics. Mr. Mangrum has a fine country residence and good barns and outbuildings. His farm is one of the best fenced and improved farms of the county. He is a man of liberal, progressive and up-to-date views on all questions of the day, and is a firm believer in education, church work and in all movements which go to make a better community. In order that his children might have the advantage of a trip to the west, he and his family made a trip of nearly two years, 1904 and 1905, to the West, spending this time in California and other Western states, visiting all places of interest beyond the Rocky mountains. Mr. Mangrum is one of those men who has lived his life to good purpose and achieved a much greater degree of success than falls to the lot of the ordinary individual. By a straightforward and commendable course, he has made his way to a respectable position in the world, winning the esteem and hearty approbation of his fellow citizens and earning the reputation of an enterprising man of affairs which the public has not been slow to recognize and appreciate.

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### FRANCIS M. WELBORN.

The prosperity and substantial welfare of a community are in a large measure due to the enterprise and wise foresight of its business men. It is the progressive, wide-awake men of affairs that make the real history of a community, and their influence in shaping and directing its varied interests is difficult to estimate. The well known gentleman of whom the biographer writes in this connection has long ranked among the leading business men of Gibson county, and it is to such enterprising spirits as he that the locality is indebted for its recent substantial growth and for the high position it occupies as a center of industrial activity and progress.

Francis M. Welborn, the son of Samuel P. and Mary (Waters) Welborn, was born December 30, 1839, two and one-half miles west of Owensville. His father, Samuel P. Welborn, was born in Guilford county, North Carolina, the son of Moses Welborn, who moved to Indiana in an early day and settled near Mt. Vernon, in Posey county, on what was then called Dry fork of Big creek, and here he lived the life of the early pioneer farmer and

here his death occurred caused by cholera when that disease was raging throughout the state in the early fifties. Samuel P. Welborn spent his boyhood days on the farm near Mt. Vernon, and when he was nearly grown came to Montgomery township, this county, and worked on a farm for Risey Waters. While working for Mr. Waters, he became acquainted with his daughter, Mary, and in due course of time they were married, and they continued to reside on her father's farm until his death. In addition to his occupation as a farmer, Mr. Welborn and his two brothers operated a sawmill for several years. Samuel Welborn was a man of more than ordinary ability and his sterling worth as a citizen was recognized by the Democratic party, of which he was a faithful constituent, by being nominated for the office of county treasurer, to which office he was elected by a big majority and served four years in this capacity before the Civil war.

Francis M. Welborn grew up on his father's farm. In 1860 he went into partnership with his father and two others in the pork packing business and in this enterprise was very successful. In the fall of 1861 he came to Owensville and entered into partnership with Leroy Martin in a general store. He continued in this partnership until 1864, when he sold out his interest and entered into a partnership with James Montgomery in general merchandising. This firm continued in this business for about four years, when Mr. Montgomery sold his interest to Harmon & Summers, the firm name being afterward known as Welborn & Summers Company. This partnership continued for many years and they gradually built up a large and lucrative business in the community. After some years Mr. Welborn engaged in business with his wife's father, John W. Robb, and they continued in joint partnership until 1894, when Francis M. Welborn sold his share in the business to his son, George R. and retired from active participation in the conduct of the company. However, the old habits of industry could not be thrown off at once and he puts in full time at the store, just as he has done for the past forty years when he was an active partner.

Francis M. Welborn was married to Lenora A. Robb, the daughter of John W. Robb. Mrs. Welborn was born and reared at Stewartsville, Posey county, this state, where her father also was born, and where he followed the occupation of a farmer and was also a merchant at Stewartsville. Mr. Robb's parents came to this state at a very early date, and some of his people were among the first settlers in Gibson county, near Hazleton. To Mr. and Mrs. Welborn has been born one son, George R., who is represented elsewhere in this work.

Francis M. Welborn is a well preserved man and in good health at the

age of seventy-four, and is still able to put in a full day's work in the store. He attributes this to his frugal way of living during all his life. Through a long and busy life, full of honor and success, he has always been actuated by the highest motives. His has been a life of honest and persistent endeavor, such as always brings a true appreciation of the real value of human existence, a condition that must be prolific of good results in all the relations of life. He can look back over a life well spent in the service of his fellow men.

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### VIRGIL R. CARTER, M. D.

The most elaborate history is necessarily a merciless abridgment, the historian being compelled to select his facts and materials from manifold details. In every life of honor and usefulness there is no dearth of incident, and yet in summing up the career of any man the writer must needs touch only the more salient points, giving the keynote of the character but eliminating all that is superfluous. Within the pages of this work will be found mention of many prominent and influential citizens whose lives have been practically passed in Gibson county and who are representatives of sturdy pioneer families. Among this class is the subject of this sketch, who occupies a prominent place in the ranks of the representative men of his community.

Virgil R. Carter, M. D., was born January 17, 1863, in Johnson township, Gibson county, Indiana, the son of John W. and Martha (Emerson) Carter. The subject's mother, who was a native of Gibson county, is now living with the Doctor and is enjoying good health. The father, John W., was born in Posey county, Indiana, in 1841, and died in November, 1895, at the age of fifty-five years.

The paternal grandfather of the subject was named Rane Carter, who married in Kentucky and brought his family to Indiana at an early date, settling in Posey county, where he remained the rest of his days, dying in his seventy-ninth year, his entire life having been spent in the pursuit of farming. To Rane Carter and wife were born twelve children, only one of whom died in infancy, the remaining eleven living to ripe old ages, there being a period of sixty years without a death, and when the subject's father died there were ten of his brothers and sisters still living, the youngest being fifty-two years of age. The eldest brother, James B. Carter, died in August, 1913, at the age of eighty-seven, the average age of this remarkably long-lived family being eighty years.

John W. Carter, the subject's father, enlisted in Company F, Eightieth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, in 1862, and served until the close of the war, being wounded at the battle of Resaca. He was a comrade of John Mangrum, a review of whose war record is given elsewhere in this work. In this sanguinary conflict for the preservation of the Union the family took a part that is worthy of more than passing note. Enlisted in the Union army were the subject's father, his brothers, James P., Benjamin, Samuel, John W. and Rane, besides two brothers-in-law and nephews innumerable. All lived through the war, though one of the brothers, Benjamin, received a wound in the service from the effects of which he died after returning home. A family record of five sons in the army is exceptional, and it is also interesting to note that the husbands of two of the daughters were also in the conflict. One of the daughters, Mrs. Eliza McConnell, made a long and dangerous trip to the front to visit her husband, who was seriously ill, and was successful in reaching him and bringing him home, where he soon afterward died. The oldest son of this daughter was also a soldier and died or was killed in the service. On the death of her husband, Franklin McConnell, his widow, Eliza, was left with the care of six children.

On the close of the Civil war the subject's father returned to Johnson township, Gibson county, his wife having remained with her father while he was in the army. They soon after located in Union township, where they remained during their more active days, removing to Princeton in 1892. On his removal to the latter place he was elected township trustee and was efficiently discharging the duties of that office at the time of his death.

To the subject's parents were born three children: Virgil R., the subject of this sketch, is the oldest; Albert L. died January 18, 1890, in his twenty-third year; Laura was married to George E. Daugherty, of Princeton, and died February 20, 1898, in Mexico, where she had been taken in an attempt to restore her failing health. The father of the subject was incapacitated physically for some years owing to a wound which he received in the Civil war.

Virgil R. Carter's elementary education was received in the district schools, supplemented by a course in the high school at Owensville, he then entering on a scientific course in the Union Christian College at Merom, Indiana, from which he was graduated in 1887. After teaching school for a brief period, the subject, deciding on the practice of medicine for his life work, entered the Eclectic Medical Institute at Cincinnati, graduating in June, 1890, and immediately engaging in the practice of his profession in Cynthiana, Posey county, and later at Toledo, Illinois.

In 1898, after the death of the Doctor's father, he returned to Gibson county, and, retiring from the active work of medicine, located on the farm, to the cultivation of which he has since devoted his energies. Large crops of corn and the best of registered live stock have been the chief products of his splendid agricultural plant, on which he has a fine modern residence and the best of farm buildings. For some time after his father's death, the Doctor had twenty aunts and uncles living, all blood relatives.

Doctor Carter was thrice married, first to Turia Buff, daughter of Dr. B. F. Buff, of Illinois, in 1890, she dying about a year after the marriage. In November, 1895, the subject was united in matrimony to Mrs. Clara Logan, of Toledo, Illinois, who died in 1897. The Doctor's present wife was Mattie Eaton, of Crawford county, Indiana. The subject's four children are named Lowell L., John W., James and Glen.

Doctor Carter has been honored by election to a number of important township offices and has served as county assessor four years. In 1910 he was president of the Farmers' Institute, which he promoted, and the first corn school contest among the farmers' boys was instigated by him.

Fraternally, the Doctor belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Tribe of Ben-Hur, while he and his wife are members of the General Baptist church. His mother is a member of the Christian church. Politically, the Doctor's faith is, like that of his father, in harmony with the platforms of the Republican party.

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### JAMES H. ARMSTRONG.

Agriculture has always been an honorable vocation and at the present time the agricultural output of the United States is more than equivalent to the total output of all the factories of the country put together. There is one thing in the life of a farmer which distinguishes it from any other occupation, and that is his ability to exist independently of every other vocation. The merchant, the banker, the manufacturer, all depend absolutely on the farmer's crops. A famine throughout this country would bankrupt the strongest merchant, wreck the largest bank and close the most extensive factory. Business men can see their business collapse within a week, but nothing short of an earthquake can ruin the farmer. Land is as it always has been—the most favorable financial investment. Panic may sweep the manufacturer out of business over night, but the farmer can survive when every other industry



falls. Therefore, the farmer is the backbone of the nation and he who makes two blades of grass grow where but one formerly grew, is performing the most useful mission of man. Gibson county farmers are as good as can be found anywhere in the world, and their history is largely the history of the material advancement of the county. Among Gibson county's excellent farmers, there is none more deserving of recognition in this day of biography than is the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this sketch.

James H. Armstrong, the son of William S. and Emily (Smith) Armstrong, was born March 31, 1858, four miles northeast of Owensville. His father was a native of Vanderburg county, this state, his birth having occurred there on May 1, 1824. His wife was a native of Gibson county, and was born November 24, 1827. William Armstrong was a farmer all his life and reared a large family of children to spheres of influence. He continued to reside in Vanderburg county until after his marriage, in 1846, when he came to Gibson county and purchased one hundred and ninety acres of land, part of which is now owned by his son, James H. He combined the raising of live stock with his general farming and was uniformly successful in all his financial dealings. He was an active Democrat, but never sought public office, although he served as township trustee for several terms before the present constitution went into effect in 1852. Before that date each township in his county had three trustees, a system which went out of use upon the adoption of the present constitution. He and his wife were both loyal and earnest members of the Regular Baptist church of Owensville, and he held the office of deacon in the church, taking a very active part in all of the various departments of church work. He was always a hard worker, and attended to his business with such application that he was able to give his large family all of the advantages which were obtainable. Mr. and Mrs. William Armstrong were the parents of a large family, five of whom are still living: Willis, a farmer of this county; Warrick, also a farmer of the county; one who died in infancy; John, who lives in Kansas; Morgan, deceased; James H., the immediate subject of this sketch; Mary, deceased in 1888, and Pinkney, a farmer of Gibson county. William Armstrong died on July 24, 1877, and his widow survived him many years, her death occurring on January 2, 1901.

James H. Armstrong, the subject of this sketch, was married on July 6, 1879, to Lela G. Bingham, daughter of Garner and Jane (Roberts) Bingham. Her father was a native of this county and followed the occupation of a farmer during his lifetime. Mrs. Bingham was also a native of this county



and died in 1876, her husband surviving her until 1901. Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong were the parents of ten children, Charles, who died at the age of thirteen months; Mary, the wife of John S. Cushman, a farmer of Posey county, this state, has one child, Grace; Harvey, who married Florence Brumfield, operates a farm in Montgomery township, and has two children, Roy and Margerite May; Lemuel G., who married Nettie Spore, is a farmer in Patoka township, this county, and had one son, Gerald, who is dead; William Edgar, the twin brother of Lemuel G., who lives at home and helps his father, James H., on the farm; Elva, the wife of Orville Spore, who died on August 12, 1913; John, who married Edith Woods, is a farmer of this township; Flora and Ruth are still at home; Herschell died at the early age of six months.

James H. Armstrong enjoyed all the pleasures and disadvantages of the average boy on the farm. He attended the district schools in the winter seasons and performed such work as falls to the lot of the ordinary country boy. After graduating from the common schools he completed the course in the Owensville high school, from which he graduated with honor to himself, and started out on his active career at the age of twenty-one years, when he married and bought some land in the township where he still lives. By the exercise of good business judgment and economical habits of life he added to his holdings from time to time until he is now the owner of two hundred and fifty acres of as good land as can be found in the county. He combines stock raising with his general farming and has been more than ordinarily successful in all of his financial transactions. He keeps well informed on all of the new methods in farming and keeps his farm well supplied with the most modern implements for the carrying on of agriculture. His reputation for honesty and square dealing has won for him the esteem of all with whom he comes in contact.

Although he has always been a Democrat, Mr. Armstrong has never taken an active part in the deliberations of his party. However, the citizens of his township thrust upon him the office of township assessor, which he continued to hold for some time. Fraternally, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. Personally, Mr. Armstrong is one of the most genial and good natured men in the community. He is companionable, charitable to his neighbors' faults and always looks on the bright side of life. With him optimism is a religion and his smile radiates sunshine in every direction. His wife is a loyal and earnest member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, and is wholly devoted to home and domestic duties, doing during all the best

years of her life the lowly but sacred work which comes within her sphere. Through all the long years she has worked with her husband and children, and in her gentle, tender and loving way merits no small share in her husband's success.

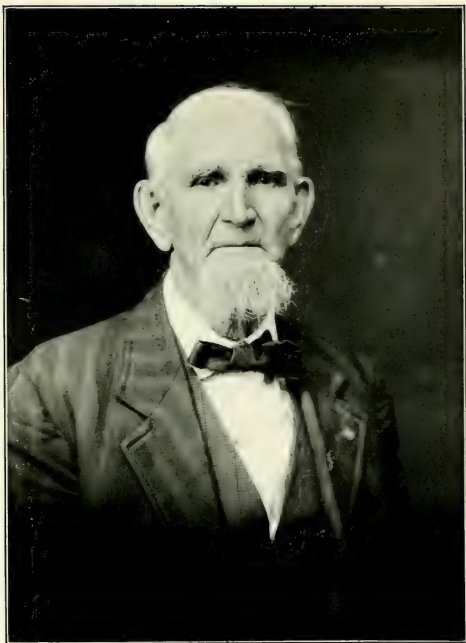
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### ELIJAH L. LINCOLN.

It is by no means an easy task to describe within the limits of this review a man who has led an active and eminently useful life and by his own exertions reached a position of honor and respect in the community. But biography finds justification, nevertheless, in the tracing and recording of such a life history, as the public claims a certain property interest in the career of every individual and the time invariably arrives when it becomes advisable to give the right publicity. It is, then, with a certain degree of satisfaction that the chronicler essays the task of touching briefly upon such a record as has been that of the subject who now comes under this review.

Elijah Lincoln was born in September, 1832, the son of Leonard and Nancy (Dick) Lincoln. The father, who was a first cousin of the immortal Abraham Lincoln, was born in Kentucky and was married in the Buckeye state, where he spent the remainder of his days, he dying when the subject was a boy. Elijah Lincoln lived in Zanesville, Ohio, until he was sixteen years old, when he joined his brother Robert, who had been in Illinois for five years. Two years later his brother John located with them and in two more years the mother also removed to Illinois, the family being located in Licken township, Crawford county.

After learning the cooper's trade, Mr. Lincoln made a trip to New Orleans and on his return settled in Gibson county, Indiana, where he farmed for several years and worked at his trade at intervals, continuing this until the Pike's Peak gold excitement in 1859, when he went west. One summer was spent on Chicago Bar, about sixty miles from Denver, a bare subsistence being all that the gold hunters could gain in that district. Mr. Lincoln then engaged in teaming, hauling hay and other goods. He would purchase hay at ten dollars a load, and after hauling it into the mountains was enabled to sell it for one hundred dollars a load. He followed this lucrative business for about three years, but, being desirous of joining the army, he returned to Gibson county, and in August, 1862, enlisted in Company B, Fifty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, commanded by Colonel Emery and Captain



ELIJAH L. LINCOLN.



Smith. He was mustered in at Princeton and joined his regiment at Indianapolis, where he was stationed five weeks. From the Hoosier capital they were sent to Louisville and then to Bardstown, Kentucky, where they joined General Wood's command and proceeded with it to Nashville and then to Murfreesboro, Tennessee, where they were engaged in some severe fighting. Their next move was to Chattanooga, where they pursued General Bragg up over Missionary Ridge, trying to cut him off. General Bragg, however, after passing Missionary Ridge, was reinforced by General Longstreet and a hot fight ensued, during which Mr. Lincoln was shot in the left foot. General Thomas holding the Confederates in check, the subject's command was enabled to retire to Chattanooga. Mr. Lincoln's regiment, with fifteen hundred wounded men, was taken to Nashville in a freight train, where he remained in a hospital for fifteen days. At the expiration of this time he was granted a furlough for thirty days, which he spent at home, returning at the end of that time to his regiment, which had been in winter quarters. In a short time the regiment was returned to Indiana, where it remained until April, when it was again called into active service, the next engagement being at Buzzard Roost. Mr. Lincoln was then detailed to join a few men who had been left in Chattanooga in charge of supplies and equipments which could not be carried at the time. These supplies were taken in charge and in June Mr. Lincoln and his companions caught up with their command at Big Shanty. From this place they proceeded to Atlanta and joined General Sherman in his famous "march to the sea." The regiment assisted in driving the Confederates out of Savannah, after which they occupied that place for several weeks, and then marched sixty miles to Sister's Ferry, and from there went to Goldsboro, where they remained a short time, from there being dispatched to head off General Johnson's army, which had not yet surrendered. While laying a bridge across the river they received the first news of the assassination of President Lincoln. Orders were received here for the troops to proceed to Washington, via Richmond, Virginia, where they took part in the Grand Review.

The subject was honorably discharged at Indianapolis, having been mustered out in a livery stable in Washington. From that city he returned to his home at Fort Branch, where he took up farming. In 1857 Mr. Lincoln was married to Harriet Comer, daughter of Alexander Comer, one of the pioneer settlers of the Hoosier state. His wife passed away in 1874, having been the mother of eight children, namely: Leonard, Monzo, Daniel and

Warren are deceased; Abram is now living in Horton, Texas, where he has been successful and is the owner of much property; Rosie is living at home; Louisa is also residing in Horton, Texas; Clara is in St. Louis.

Mr. Lincoln, in his long and eventful career, has always endeavored to keep the Lincoln name clean and respected, and has inculcated this worthy desire in his children. The position of respect and honor which he has attained in the community honored by his residence proves that he has succeeded in this worthy ambition. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic at Fort Branch. He has always been a Republican, though he was first an old-line Whig. He is the last of his line of the Lincoln family.

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### CLEVE E. WILLIS.

Hard and laborious work was the lot of the subject of this sketch during his youth and early manhood, but his fidelity to duty has won for him the respect and confidence of those with whom he has been thrown in contact, and by patient continuance in well doing he has gradually risen from an humble station to his present standing as a progressive young farmer of Gibson county. He has worked his way from a modest beginning up to a position of considerable prominence by his efforts, which have been practically unaided, a fact which renders him the more worthy of the praise that is freely accorded him by his fellow citizens.

Cleve E. Willis, the son of Joseph M. and Winnie (Rumble) Willis, was born in Pike county, Indiana, March 29, 1885. His father was also a native of Pike county, as was his mother, where they still reside. Joseph Willis was a farmer and has always followed agricultural pursuits. He now has eighty-eight acres of good farming land in Pike county. Mr. and Mrs. Willis were the parents of five children, Sarah, who became the wife of James Rumble, of Patoka township; Mrs. Flora Jenkins, deceased; Mrs. Mary Blake, who resides in Pike county; Cleve E.; Mrs. Alice Stewart, also of Pike county.

Cleve E. Willis received a good practical, common school education in his home schools and attended the Oakland City College for two years. At the end of his common school course he held the attendance record of Pike county. After he finished his two years' course at Oakland City College he secured a license to teach school, but decided to follow agriculture as a voca-

tion instead of the teaching profession. He worked on his father's farm until his marriage in 1908.

Mr. Willis was married to Mellie Blythe, the daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Clifford) Blythe, March 31, 1908. Samuel Blythe was born in Gibson county, Indiana, near Owensville, and his wife was a native of Pike county, this state. Mr. and Mrs. Blythe now live in Columbia township, on the farm which his father, Craig Blythe, purchased at a time when it was a primitive wilderness. A part of that farm is now within the corporation limits of Oakland City. Mr. and Mrs. Blythe are the parents of two children, Mrs. Millie Blythe, and Mrs. Eunice Walker, who is now living in Indianapolis, where Mr. Walker is engaged in the drug business. Mr. and Mrs. Cleve Willis are the parents of one son, Joe Blythe, born September 18, 1910. Mr. Willis is now living on the farm near Oakland City known as the Bowen-Cheney farm, and has been managing it for the past three years. He carries on a general system of diversified farming and makes a specialty of stock feeding and shipping of hogs and cattle, in which he has been very successful. His ability as a farmer is shown by the fact that he has been elected to office in the Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Union of America. He was president of this organization for one year and has been secretary and treasurer for the Pike County Union for the past five years. This is an organization which seeks to promote agricultural interests and affairs pertaining to the life of the farmer. Mr. Willis has pursued a system of rotation of crops so as to retain the fertility of the soil and his land is as productive as any in the county where he resides. No farm in the county is looked after with greater care. He takes an active interest in all public affairs and has performed his full part as a public-spirited citizen.

Mr. Willis has cast his vote at all times for the candidates of the Democratic party and takes a prominent part in the local organizations of his party. He has never asked for any political preferment at the hands of his party, being content to devote all his energies to his agricultural interests. He and his wife are members of the Baptist church of Oakland City and are liberal contributors to the support of that denomination. Mrs. Willis is a graduate of the Oakland City high school and taught school in Gibson county for two years. She also attended the Oakland City College for some time in order to the better equip herself for the teaching profession. Mr. Willis is thoroughly up-to-date in all his operations and keeps in close touch with the most advanced ideas relative to farming and stock raising and gives his undivided attention to the work in hand, so that he has justly earned the enviable reputation which he enjoys.

## HERSCHEL LOGAN BASS, M. D.

The present age is essentially utilitarian and the life of every successful man carries a lesson which, told in contemporary narrative, is productive of much good in shaping the destiny of others. There is, therefore, a due measure of satisfaction in presenting, even in brief resume, the life and achievements of such men, and in preparing the following history of the well-known and successful physician whose name appears at the head of this sketch, it is with the hope that it may prove not only interesting and instructive, but also serve as an incentive to those who contemplate making the medical profession their life work, for it shows how a man, not especially favored by inherited wealth, may forge to the front and not only succeed in the material things of life, but also be of inestimable service to his fellow men.

Herschel Logan Bass, M. D., the present efficient coroner of Gibson county, was born June 4, 1883, in Lane township, Warrick county, Indiana, the son of Gaines H. and Rhoda (McKinney) Bass, both natives of the Hoosier state. The progenitors of the Bass family were three brothers, who came to America from England, two of them locating in North Carolina and the other in the state of Maine. Doctor Bass's family descended from those who settled in North Carolina.

The subject's father, who spent his life following agricultural pursuits, is now retired, after a long and honorable career of usefulness to his fellow men, he having served in the offices of township trustee and county assessor, and has always been recognized as a representative man in his community.

Of a family of seven children, five sons and two daughters, the subject of this review was the eldest. His elementary education was received in the common schools, after which he entered the State Normal School and prepared himself for teaching, a profession which he followed for four years. Being desirous of taking up the medical profession as a life work, he abandoned his pedagogical work and entered the Louisville Medical College, from which he was graduated on June 30, 1909, two years of his time in college having been spent in hospital practice. Having thus laid a splendid foundation for his future calling, he came to Fort Branch, hung out his shingle, and in a comparatively short time had built up a large and lucrative practice. He is essentially progressive and modern in his methods, realizing that the education of a physician is never at an end, and by constant reading from the leading medical journals and study of the complex problems of medicine at first hand, he is keeping himself abreast of the times in his profession.



In December, 1909, Doctor Bass was united in matrimony to Lena Johnson, daughter of F. M. Johnson, of Illinois. Mr. Johnson is one of the leading and representative men of his community and the subject's wife is a most charming and cultivated lady. A beautiful residence and up-to-date offices have been erected by Doctor Bass, and his home is the social center for his many friends, the genial natures of the subject and his wife being demonstrated in the true spirit of hospitality which radiates from their home. To Doctor Bass and wife has been born one child, Herschel L.

In 1910 the subject of this review was elected coroner of Gibson county, and so efficiently did he discharge the duties of that responsible position that he was re-elected in 1912, and is at present capably filling that office. The Doctor is a member of the Gibson County Medical Association, the Indiana State Medical Association and the Ohio Valley Medical Association, while, fraternally, he is affiliated with the Free and Accepted Masons, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Improved Order of Red Men and the Modern Woodmen of America, of which latter order he is medical examiner.

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### JOHN WESLEY HARMON.

The character of a community is determined largely by the lives of a comparatively few of its members. If its moral and intellectual status be good, if in a social way it is a pleasant place in which to reside, if its reputation for the integrity of its citizens has extended to other localities, it will be found that the standards set by the leading men have been high and their influence such as to mold their characters and shape the lives of those with whom they mingle. In placing the subject of this sketch in the front rank of such men, justice is rendered a biographical fact universally recognized throughout Gibson county by those at all familiar with his history. Although a quiet and unassuming man, with no ambition for public position or leadership, he has contributed much to the material advancement of the community, while his admirable qualities of head and heart and the straightforward, upright course of his daily life have tended greatly to the moral standing of the circles in which he moves and gives him a reputation for integrity and correct conduct such as few achieve.

John Wesley Harmon, one of the most progressive business men of this county, was born January 18, 1840. His parents were Laxton and Elizabeth Ann (Simpson) Harmon. Laxton Harmon was a native of Virginia, whose

father, John Simpson, was a native of North Carolina. The father of the subject came to Gibson county in 1811, and at the time of the battle of Tippecanoe, on November 7, 1811, he was on guard duty in old Fort Knox at Vincennes. He was not in the fight, but assisted during all the troubles incident to the Indian uprising in guarding the fort in the fall of 1811. His death occurred in November, 1842, having lived all of his life as a farmer in this county. He did his share towards clearing up the land, draining the swamps and making the roads through the pathless forests, and at his death he had cleared and put under cultivation forty acres of land which was practically worthless at the time he entered it. Laxton Harmon, the father of the subject of this sketch, died shortly after the birth of John W. Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Harmon was the daughter of John Simpson, Sr., a native of Gibson county. She died in 1851, when John W. was about eleven years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Laxton Harmon were the parents of three children, Lewis, deceased, Melinda, deceased, and the subject of this sketch. Lewis lived and died in this county, having followed the occupation of a farmer there all his life. He was never married. Melinda was the wife of Garrett Mount, and died in the spring of 1865. Mr. and Mrs. Mount were the parents of four children, Mrs. Elizabeth Wilhite, deceased; Mrs. Mary Pegram, deceased; Mrs. Alice McCrary and Julius.

John W. Harmon was reared on the farm west of Owensville in the Maumee river bottoms and followed the occupation of a farmer until 1870, when he formed a partnership with F. M. Welborn and engaged in general merchandising in Owensville, which pursuit he continued for two years under the firm name of Welborn & Harmon, after which time he sold out his interest in 1873 to Richey Sumner, but remained in the store as a clerk. After clerking for about eighteen months, he re-entered the business under the firm name of Welborn, Harmon & Company. Some time later he sold his interest to James Robinson, who purchased the stock for his son. The firm name was then changed to Pruitt, Robinson & Company. Pruitt later brought out the interests of Robinson and the firm name became Pruitt Brothers. Joseph Pruitt, the elder member of the firm, died in July, 1880, and in the spring of 1881 Mr. Harmon took the interest of Joseph Pruitt and the firm was reorganized under the name of Harmon & Pruitt. In the fall of 1888 Mr. Harmon traded his interests to Samuel Scott for a half interest in the Owensville Milling Company, the new firm being known as the Harmon & Wallace Company. He still retains his interest in the mill. Mr. Harmon is also one of the largest land owners of the county, having over twelve hun-

dred acres of good land, three hundred and fifty of which lie in the Wabash township bottoms. The rest of his land is located in Union and Montgomery townships. Mr. Harmon also has large real estate holdings in Owensville, consisting of business rooms, residence property and a large number of city lots.

Mr. Harmon was married September 29, 1872, to Julia A. Pruitt, the daughter of William and Elizabeth (Spain) Pruitt, both of whom were natives of this county. These parents both died in Evansville. One child, Harvey, was born to this union, who is represented elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Julia Harmon died December 4, 1876. On December 12, 1878, Mr. Harmon was married to Nancy Elizabeth Musick, daughter of Herrod and Mary E. (Warrick) Musick. Herrod Musick was a native of Ohio and came to Logan county, Illinois, where his death occurred several years ago. Mrs. Musick was a native of Gibson county, and has been dead many years. To Mr. Harmon's second marriage was born one child, a daughter, Grace, who is the wife of Rufus H. Barnet, the present postmaster of Owensville. They have three children, Robert, Warren and Marriam.

Mr. Harmon has for a half century been one of the most prominent business men of the county. He is distinctly a man of affairs, sound of judgment, with keen discernment, and far-seeing in everything he has undertaken, and every enterprise to which he has addressed himself has resulted in liberal material reward. His extensive business interests are the legitimate fruitage of consecutive effort, directed and controlled not only by good judgment, but also by correct moral principles. Personally, he is congenial, quiet and unassuming in disposition, and in all the relations of life he has so conducted himself that his friends are in number as his acquaintances.

Politically, Mr. Harmon has always been a Democrat, but has never taken an active interest in the deliberations of his party, although when he was a young man not far past his majority he was township assessor for two terms. He has been a life-long member of the Regular Baptist church, and for many years has been a trustee of that denomination. He has always lent his influence and support to everything in the matter of the advancement and welfare of his town and community, and his charitable work has been the means of alleviating much suffering in his locality. He is always ready to share his substance with the poor and needy, and by a straightforward and commendable course he has made his way to a highly respected position in the world. His career presents a notable example of those noble qualities of mind and character which overcome obstacles and win success, and his example is eminently worthy of imitation.

## W. F. MORRIS, M. D.

Gibson county, Indiana, has reason to take pride in the personnel of her corps of medical men from the earliest days in her history to the present time, and on the roll of honored names that indicates the services of distinguished citizens in this field of endeavor there is reason in reverting with gratification to that of Dr. W. F. Morris, of Fort Branch, who has attained eminence in his chosen calling and stands high among the scholarly and enterprising physicians in a community that has long been distinguished for the excellence of its medical talent. He realized early that there is a purpose in life and that there is no honor not founded on worth and no respect not founded on accomplishment. His life and labors have been eminently worthy because they have contributed to a proper understanding of life and its problems.

W. F. Morris, M. D., was born September 14, 1875, in Barton township, Gibson county, Indiana, the son of John T. and Mary E. (Miller) Morris, the father a native of the same township, he having been born and passed his entire life on the home place where the subject first saw the light of day. John T. Morris was a son of John T. and Mary (Marshall) Morris, who were born and grew to maturity in England, leaving that country in 1832 and coming to Evansville, Indiana, where they were married. From there they removed to Vanderburg county, and in 1838 again sought a new location, this time settling in Barton township, Gibson county, where they, with the other sturdy pioneers of those days, engaged in the struggle to subdue the almost unbroken wilderness and build a home. John T. Morris, Sr., was an efficient surveyor and his services were in great demand by his neighbors in locating their lands. He was a well informed man and was a valuable addition to the community, his advice often being sought on matters of business. It is said that one of his many accomplishments was "fiddling," and his presence was demanded at the social gatherings of those days, where the music from his bow helped to make the sturdy pioneers forget their hardships and struggles. He and his wife were members of the Episcopal church. To this worthy couple were born six children, as follows: John T., the subject's father; Richard, Lewis, Phillip and Sidney are deceased; Robert is engaged in farming on the home place. The subject's father secured what education he could in the early schools of the county, and his father dying when he was but twelve years old, the care of his mother was taken up by

him, and she lived with him until her death in 1898. John T. Morris, Jr., engaged in farming for thirty-five years. He was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, while, politically, he was a supporter of the Republican party. He was united in marriage to Mary E. Miller, daughter of David Miller, of Virginia, who was an early settler in Pike county, Indiana, and later removed to Missouri. To this union were born nine children, namely: George Thomas, who is a farmer in Warrick county, Indiana, married Mary E. Heldt. He is also interested in engineering and in the dairy business; John T., a physician, who is the subject of a review in another part of this work; Robert Benjamin is a farmer in Warrick county, and among other investments he is interested in a telephone company. He was married first to a Miss DePriest and his second wife was a Miss Smith; Charles died at the age of four years; Mattie died at the age of two and a half years; William F.; James died at the age of four; David, deceased; Edison, a farmer of Elberfield, Warrick county, married Augusta Ebrecht; Mary Eva married William C. May, a farmer at Mackey, Indiana.

The subject of this review attended the common schools of Barton township, supplementing this with a course in a business college in Indianapolis. Deciding on the practice of medicine as his life work, he took up the study of that noble profession under the tutelage of Dr. John Ballard, which he continued until 1906, when he entered the Jefferson College of Medicine in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, graduating from this well-known institution in 1900. While pursuing his medical studies in the Philadelphia college he also took up the surgical branch under the direction of Dr. W. W. Keen, Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, one of the most noted surgeons of the world, his most wonderful accomplishments having been along the line of brain surgery. Receiving his diploma in both branches at the same time, Doctor Morris returned to his native state and took up the practice of his profession at Fort Branch, where he has been very successful and has built up a large and lucrative business.

In September, 1902, Doctor Morris was united in marriage to Ercel May Arburn, daughter of John M. Arburn, one of the earliest merchants of Gibson county. To this union has been born one child, Ludson D., born in September, 1907.

Besides holding membership in the Gibson County Medical Association and the State Medical Association, Doctor Morris is a member of the American Association of Railroad Surgeons, and is local surgeon for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company. Fraternally, he holds mem-

bership in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Tribe of Ben-Hur at Fort Branch. He also belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church at Fort Branch.

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### EPHRAIM M. FOWLER.

The Union soldier during the great war between the states wrought even better than he knew. Through four years of suffering and wasting hardships, through the horrors of prison pens and amid the shadows of death, he laid the superstructure of the greatest temple ever erected and dedicated to human freedom. The world looked on and called those soldiers sublime, for it was theirs to reach out the mighty arm of power and strike the chains from off the slave, preserve the country from dissolution, and to keep furled to the breeze the only flag that ever made tyrants tremble and whose majestic stripes and scintillating stars are still waving universal liberty to all the earth. For all their unmeasured deeds the living present will never repay them. Pension and political power may be thrown at their feet; art and sculpture may preserve upon canvas and in granite and bronze their unselfish deeds; history may commit to books and cold type may give to the future the tale of their sufferings and triumphs; but to the children of the generations yet unborn will it remain to accord the full measure of appreciation and undying remembrance of the immortal character carved out by the American soldiers in the dark days of the early sixties, numbered among whom was the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this sketch.

Ephraim M. Fowler was born on January 4, 1840, the son of Martin and Nancy (Wakeland) Fowler, the father a native of North Carolina and the mother of Kentucky. Martin Fowler was reared in his native state, where he first married Mary Cox, whose death occurred in Warrick county, Indiana. After the subject's marriage he located in Warrick county, Indiana, northeast of Boonville, where he obtained a piece of wild land, which he cleared and established a home. Later he added to it, and finally became the owner of a fine tract of six hundred and forty acres, all in one body. Here he followed farming and stock raising, in which he was very successful, shipping large numbers of stock to New Orleans. It was on one of his trips to that city in 1847 that his death occurred. He was very successful in his financial affairs and was well known and respected throughout the community. After his death his second wife married John Cherry, and her death occurred in Warrick county. To Martin Fowler and his first wife were born nine children:

Wiley W., John, Matilda, Betsy Ann, Bettie, Lucy, Isaac B., Ruth and Mary Ann. By his second union Martin Fowler became the father of five children: William Henry, Ephraim Merritt, James Martin, Mary Jane and Sarah Elizabeth. To Mr. and Mrs. John Cherry were born six children: Richard, Lucinda, Martha, John, Absalom and Alexander. John Cherry also had been married twice, and to his first union, with a Miss McDaniel, there were born five children, George, Mary Jane, Marina Ann, Sarah and Allen.

Ephraim M. Fowler had but little opportunity to attend school, the nearest school house being four miles through the timber from his home. His stepfather, John Cherry, cut a log and hitched a horse to it and put the subject on the horse and led the horse through the woods, thus making a path through the leaves and brush to the school house, this path being known as the Hudson school house path and was used for nearly thirty years. In 1861 Mr. Fowler enlisted in the Seventeenth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry as a musician for three months' service, and at the end of his first period of enlistment he returned home and enlisted as a private in Company C, Forty-second Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, which was sent to Kentucky and up the Green river. The regiment then went south to Huntsville, Alabama, and was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland, with which it remained until the close of the war, taking part in all the engagements and campaigns in which that celebrated army had a part. Mr. Fowler was transferred to Company G, One Hundred and Forty-third Regiment, and was made a lieutenant in 1864 because of faithfulness to duty and courage in battle, which rank he held at the time of his discharge in 1865. After the war he returned to Warrick county, Indiana, and bought and shipped leaf tobacco until 1877, when he located in Oakland City, where he also engaged in buying and selling tobacco, as well as handling large quantities of grain. He later engaged in the grocery business and also operated a restaurant for some time. For sixty years Mr. Fowler has attended all of the county fairs in this section of the state, being widely known, and has sold lemonade and other articles of public consumption. He is a man of remarkable health, having never taken one dollar's worth of medicine in his life, and is of an intensely optimistic and cheerful disposition, being a welcome member of any circle which he chooses to enter.

In 1862 Mr. Fowler married Susan Harland, a native of Kentucky. Her death occurred in 1873 and subsequently he married Fannie Boner, of Boonville, Indiana. There were no children born to the first union, and the second union resulted in one daughter, Ethel May, who is now a milliner at Oakland City, Indiana.



Mr. Fowler is a charter member of Cochran Post, Grand Army of the Republic, at Oakland City, Indiana, has been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows since 1866, and a member of the Free and Accepted Masons since 1882, taking an appreciative interest in the workings of all these orders. He is an earnest and faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Oakland City and is numbered among its loyal and earnest constituents. Mr. Fowler would be the last man to sit for romance or become a subject for fancy sketches, but his life presents much that is interesting and valuable, for he is one of those whose integrity and strength of character must force them into an admirable notoriety, which their modesty never seeks, but who command the respect of their contemporaries and leave the impress of their individuality upon the community.

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### SAMUEL S. REED.

A man's reputation is the property of the world, for the laws of nature have forbidden isolation. Every human being either submits to the controlling influence of others or wields an influence which touches, controls, guides or misdirects others. If he be honest and successful in his chosen field of endeavor, investigation will brighten his fame and point the way along which others may follow with like success. The reputation of Samuel S. Reed, one of the leading journalists of Gibson county, having been unassailable all along the highways of life, according to those who have known him best, it is believed that a critical study of his career will be of benefit to the reader, for it has been not only one of honor, but of usefulness also.

Samuel S. Reed, who, after an active and useful life, is now living retired in Oakland City, was born in Winslow, Pike county, Indiana, on November 29, 1839, and is the son of Elijah and Rebecca (Slater) Reed, the former a native of North Carolina, and the latter of the Hoosier state. Elijah Reed came from his native state to Indiana in early manhood, locating first at Bloomington, where he was later married. He was a carpenter by trade and in the early days here did much important building. Eventually he removed from Bloomington to Winslow, Pike county, and from there to Monroe, that county, where he located on a farm, to the operation of which he devoted his remaining years, dying there at the advanced age of eighty-four years. His widow survived him two years, also dying at the age of eighty-four. They had been married for the remarkable period of sixty-five years, and reared a family of thirteen children, eight boys and five girls, all



of whom are now living but two, and all of whom came to mature years and married before their parents' death. These children are as follows: John W., who is deceased; Samuel S., the immediate subject of this review; Clark, of Oakland City; Richard, of Oakland City; Elisha, of Pike county; Mrs. Jane Riddle, of Gibson county; Mrs. Phoebe English, deceased; Mrs. Milanda Billenback, of Princeton; Elijah; Joseph; Mrs. Rebecca Davis, of Princeton; Mrs. Sarah Ross, of New Albany, Indiana, and Peter, of Gibson county. Samuel S. Reed received his education in the public schools of Pike and Gibson counties, and was reared to the life of a farmer on the paternal homestead in Monroe township, Pike county. In 1861, shortly after attaining his majority, Mr. Reed enlisted as a private in Company K, Forty-second Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, in which he served three years and three months. During his active service he took part in the engagement at Perryville, Kentucky, on October 8, 1862, and was with Sherman on his historic march from Chattanooga to Atlanta. After the war Mr. Reed spent five years in Spencer county, Indiana, near the town of Newtonville, where he engaged in farming, and then for nine years he was similarly occupied in Montgomery township, Gibson county. From there he removed to Oakland City, where he has since resided for a period of over thirty years. Here he has built a comfortable and attractive residence, and is numbered among the solid and substantial citizens of the community.

In 1866 Mr. Reed married Jane Hayden, of Warriek county, Indiana, though they married in Missouri, where she was temporarily living at that time. To this union has been born the following children: Laura E., the wife of Dr. J. W. McCord, a successful dentist of Oakland City; Lydia A., the wife of John A. Carlisle, of Terre Haute, Indiana, and Lucy, the wife of Fred Benton, of Oakland City.

Politically, Mr. Reed has given his earnest support to the Republican party, and has served twelve years as justice of the peace and three or four times as a member of the Oakland City council. He has maintained a deep interest in local public affairs, giving his support to every movement that promised to benefit the people, educationally, morally, socially and materially. Fraternally, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of which he has passed all the chairs in the subordinate lodge, and is also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. His religious connection is with the Christian church, of which he is an elder. Because of his sterling qualities of character and upright life, Mr. Reed enjoys the confidence and esteem of the entire community with which he has been identified for so many years, standing as one of the representative citizens of the locality.

## ROBERT A. JENKINS.

This well-known citizen is another of the gallant boys who, a half century ago, enlisted to save the Union, and during that ever memorable struggle he was found ready for action, no matter how dangerous or arduous the duty. He did not enter the service as some did, from motives of sport or frolic, but saw beneath the surface and realized that the South was determined to break up the Union for the purpose of establishing a confederacy of slave-holding states. From his earliest years he had been taught to hate slavery and to do all he could to blot it from this country's escutcheon. He regarded it as a foul blot on the old flag, so that when the rebels precipitated the conflict he was ready to take up arms to preserve the Union.

Robert A. Jenkins was born in Butler county, Kentucky, May 7, 1838, the son of Thomas and Martha (Webster) Jenkins, both natives of Butler county. The father was a farmer and also a skilled mechanic, making shoes, looms, coffins, furniture and plows and was noted far and wide for his skill with tools. He came to Gibson county, Indiana, about 1858 and settled south of Oakland City, remaining there until 1867, when he removed to Carroll county, Missouri, where he died. He was a Democrat and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. To Thomas and Martha Jenkins were born eight children, namely: Elizabeth married James Jenkins and lived in Columbia township, Gibson county; Benjamin was a member of the Eightieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry and died at Indianapolis from a wound received in the service; George died in Missouri; Robert A.; William T., who was a member of the Eleventh Kentucky in the Civil war, died in Missouri; Squire Mansfield, also a member of the Eleventh Kentucky in the Civil war, died at Lexington, Kentucky; Willis is living at Nevada, Missouri; Ferdinand resides in Carlton, Missouri.

The subject of this review attended the old subscription schools and acquired what education they had to offer, living at home and assisting in the cultivation of his father's farm until he reached the age of twenty-one, when he married Rebecca Lowney, of Carlton, Carroll county, Missouri. She died in 1910, and was the mother of the following children: Stephen is with the traction company at Springfield, Missouri; Ella is the wife of W. E. John, of Springfield, Missouri; Emma, deceased, was the wife of Al Brumfield; Fred, who was employed by the Bell Telephone Company, was killed while working on a pole in Springfield, Missouri; Bertha and Robert are deceased; one child died in infancy.

In the fall of 1861 Mr. Jenkins enlisted at Princeton, Indiana, in Company F, Forty-second Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, the command first being sent to Evansville, Indiana, where they were in camp for several weeks, then going to Henderson and Calhoun, Kentucky, and from there to Owensboro. On a flat boat they patrolled Green river from this place to the mouth of that stream, and also the Tennessee river to its mouth. After taking part in the battle of Fort Donelson, they went to Nashville and Murfreesboro, when the subject was taken sick and was sent home on a thirty days' furlough. Physicians advised him that he was too ill to again enter active service, but in spite of this he again reported, and attached himself to Captain Pierce's company, a part of the Eleventh Kentucky, until he could reach his own command. With this company he was at Shiloh, Corinth and Quaker Springs, then being detailed to care for the sick and wounded of the Eleventh Kentucky in the hospital, later going to Huntsville, Alabama, where he rejoined his original company and with them marched to Deckard's Station, subsequently falling back with them to Louisville, where an order was given them to bring up the rear at Huntsville, Alabama. With five hundred of his comrades, Mr. Jenkins made the trip, being attacked several times. During the confusion the trains left fifteen hundred men at Stephenson, Alabama, and the Confederates bombarded the town and compelled them to retire to the Cumberland mountains, from where they proceeded to Murfreesboro and then to Louisville. Soon they were engaged in the battles at Perrysville and at Crab Orchard, and at New Market Mr. Jenkins was again taken ill, a general breakdown being the result of his strenuous activities in the service. He was taken to Lebanon, Kentucky, and placed in the hospital dead house and left for dead. However, he revived and after spending ten days in this hospital he was sent by way of Bowling Green to Louisville, where he was confined to the hospital for about a month, then being consigned to the Invalid Corps and sent to New Albany, Indiana. Here he remained until he felt able to resume active duties, when he went back on his own responsibility and joined his regiment at Murfreesboro, Tennessee. They took part in the Tallahoosa raid, but when they reached the foot of the Cumberland mountains, Mr. Jenkins broke down completely and was discharged at Stephenson, Alabama, in 1863, returning to his home. For a long time after his discharge the subject was incapacitated as a result of his illness.

In the fall of 1866 Mr. Jenkins went to Springfield, Missouri, and engaged in farming for a year, then removing to Carroll county, that state, where he purchased eighty acres of land and remained for seven years. In 1874 he returned to Gibson county, Indiana, and bought several town lots in

Oakland City and later a small tract of land west of that place, where he resided for a while, then acquiring seventy-two acres of land near Augusta, Indiana, which he farmed for three years. Subsequently he sold his holdings and removed to Missouri, where he rented land near Springfield and carried on gardening until 1912, returning then to Oakland City, where he has since lived in retirement. On December 25th of that year, Mr. Jenkins was united in marriage to Martha Jenkins, the widow of Lemuel Jenkins.

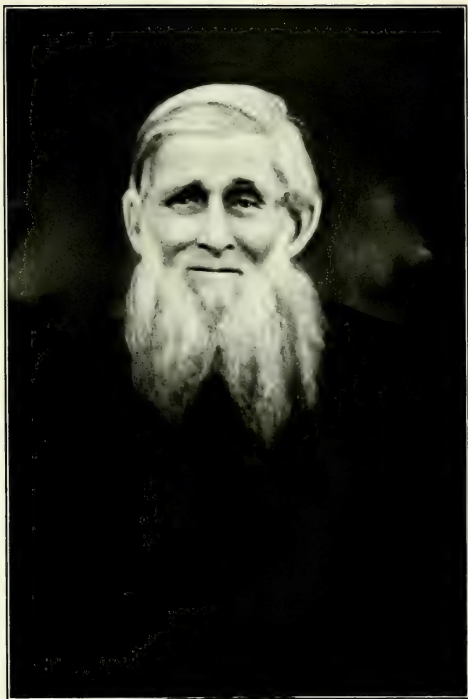
The subject is a member of John Mathews Post, Grand Army of the Republic, at Springfield, Missouri. His belief in matters of religion is indicated by his membership in the Methodist Episcopal church.

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### JOHN SLOAN.

In the early days the middle West was often a tempting field to energetic, ambitious, strong-minded men, and Indiana was filled with them during the time she was struggling up to a respectable position in the sisterhood of states. There was a fascination in the broad field and great promise which this newer region presented to activity that attracted many men and induced them to brave the discomforts of the early life here for the pleasure and gratification of constructing their fortunes in their own way and after their own methods. The late John Sloan, for a long lapse of years one of the most substantial and prominent citizens of Gibson county, was a native son of this favored section of the country, and for many years wielded a potent influence. He gave to the world the best of an essentially virile, loyal and noble nature, and his standard of honor was absolutely inflexible. He was a citizen of high civic ideals and ever manifested his liberality in connection with measures and enterprises tending to advance the general welfare of the community honored by his residence. He was the architect of his own fortune and upon his career there rests no blemish, for he was true to the highest ideals and principles in business, civic and social life. He lived and labored to worthy ends and as one of the sterling citizens and representative men of this locality in a past generation his memory merits a tribute of honor on the pages of history.

John Sloan was born March 9, 1838, on the old Sloan homestead in Patoka, Gibson county, Indiana, and was a son of Richard and Nancy (Bell) Sloan. These parents were born and reared near Charleston, South Carolina, and later went to the state of Kentucky, and eventually located in Gibson



JOHN SLOAN.



county, Indiana, settling near Hazelton, of which locality they were among the first settlers. There they obtained a tract of wild land, which the father cleared and on which he built a typical log cabin, in which they established their home and here the father was accidentally killed while leaning on his gun during a deer hunt near Patoka, in 1841. He was survived more than three decades by his widow, whose death occurred in August, 1872. Mr. Sloan was a farmer by vocation, and also gave attention in his early years here to freighting, having hauled many loads of goods from Evansville to Vincennes. A man of genial disposition and sterling qualities of character, he enjoyed a large acquaintance, among whom were many loyal friends. He was the father of six children, James, Robert, Samuel, John, Eliza and Martha.

John Sloan had little opportunity for securing a school education, his early days being spent on the home farm, and, because of the untimely death of his father, the support of his mother and the rest of the family was largely thrown upon his shoulders. After his marriage, which occurred in 1860, he and his wife located on a part of his father's old homestead, and eventually bought the home where they spent their remaining days and where Mrs. Sloan now resides. The farm comprises one hundred and eleven acres, and is numbered among the choice agricultural tracts in this locality. Mr. Sloan, who followed farming throughout his active life, was a man of industrious habits and exercised sound judgment in the management of his estate, with the result that he was enabled to realize a handsome profit from its operation. He was up-to-date and methodical in his methods, raising all the crops common to this section and also giving some attention to the handling of live stock. In addition to the home farm, Mrs. Sloan also owns eighty acres of land in the Patoka bottoms and forty acres in White River township, both of which are valuable lands.

On January 26, 1860, John Sloan was united in marriage with Catherine Phillips, who was born January 6, 1841, the daughter of Alexander and Christina (Decker) Phillips, the father a native of Tennessee and the mother of Washington township, Gibson county, Indiana. Alexander Phillips came with his parents to Washington township, this county, being among the earliest settlers of that locality, and here he grew to maturity and married, and spent the remainder of his days there. He was a farmer and passed through all the hardships incident to frontier life. Their first home in which they lived on coming here was but a rail pen, which was later followed by a

log cabin, and eventually an attractive and modern residence was built. To Mr. and Mrs. Phillips were born the following children: Polly, deceased, was twice married, first to John Foster, and the second time to Michael Murphy, their home being in Washington township, and both are now deceased. Nancy married William Hargrove, and both are now deceased. Henry, who lives in Washington township, married Jane McRoberts. Catherine, Mrs. Sloan. Elizabeth became the wife of Hiram Keith, who lives about six miles west of Princeton. Serena is the wife of Thomas Boswell, at Madison, Illinois. Christina was twice married, first to Riley Decker and second to George Hays, of Washington township, this county. Some time after the death of his first wife, Alexander Phillips married Nancy Bullard, and to this union was born one child, Alice, deceased, who was the wife of Charles Thompson. To Mr. and Mrs. Sloan were born ten children, namely: Richard A., born October 23, 1860, and who is a farmer in Patoka township, married Etta Smith, and to their union were born eight children, Galen, Barney, Jess, Stella, Ethel, deceased, Avilla, Frank, deceased, and Alonzo, also deceased. Caleb T., born December 5, 1862, is a retired farmer living at Princeton. He married Catherine Thompson and they have three children, Howard, deceased, Ruth and Frank. James Henry, born November 24, 1864, died on August 28, 1877. Nancy Cordelia, born November 1, 1866, married William Smith, and her death occurred August 4, 1898. They were the parents of four children, Gilbert, Ida, Mary and Bertha. Isaac Newton, born March 1, 1869, married Ida Decker and after her death married Minnie Pritchett, a native of Illinois. To the first union were born two children, namely: Mabel Mary, who became the wife of Fred Warthe, of Evansville, Indiana, and Dennis Paul, who lives at home with his grandmother, and who is a brakeman on the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad. By his second marriage, Isaac Newton Sloan became the father of three children, Thelma Olive, the wife of Gustan Sward, Charles Newton and Callis. Isaac Newton now lives at Pine Bluffs, Arkansas, and is a conductor on the Cotton Belt Railroad, having followed railroading since sixteen years of age. West Sloan, born May 5, 1871, was killed by the accidental discharge of a gun on June 11, 1889. John W., born April 27, 1873, and who now lives at Stonington, Colorado, married, first, Ella Eaton, and to them were born five children: Morris, who married Martha Walker and lives in Patoka township, Bessie, who died in 1911, Lennie, George and Ralph. For his second wife John W. Sloan married Myrtle Finch and they are the parents of four children, a daughter that died in infancy, Henry, Perry and John Robert. Christina Sloan, born



November 2, 1875, married, on September 22, 1896, Charles Neimeier, a merchant at Princeton, Indiana, and they have two children, Harold, who died at the age of eight years, and Helen. David D. Sloan, born March 18, 1878, married, on December 17, 1910, Allie Lynch, and they live on a part of the old homestead farm. He was formerly a railroad man, but is now engaged in a store. They have two children, Charles and Mabel. Charles B. Sloan, born February 6, 1881, died on September 5, 1896. The death of John W. Sloan, the subject of this sketch, occurred on November 20, 1911, and his passing away was considered a distinct loss to the community. His death removed from Gibson county one of her most substantial and highly esteemed citizens and the many beautiful tributes to his high standing as a man and citizen attested to the abiding place he had in the hearts and affections of his friends. His life was an inspiration to all who knew him, and his memory remains to his friends and children as a blessed benediction of an noble and upright character. Although his life was one, his every-day affairs making heavy demands upon his time, Mr. Sloan never shrank from his duties as a citizen and his obligations to his neighbors and his friends. Always calm and dignified, never demonstrative, his life was, nevertheless, a persistent plea, more by precept and example than by public action and spoken word, for the surety and guarantee of right principles in the elevation of wholesome character. To him home life was a sacred trust, friendship was inviolable and nothing could swerve him from the path of rectitude and honor.

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### HENRY C. VICKERS.

It is generally considered by those in the habit of superficial thinking that the history of great men only is worthy of preservation and that little merit exists among the masses to call forth the praises of the historian or the cheers and appreciation of mankind. A greater mistake was never made. No man is great in all things and very few are great in many things. Many by a lucky stroke achieve lasting fame who before that had no reputation beyond the limits of their neighborhoods. It is not a history of a lucky stroke which benefits humanity most, but the long study and effort which made the lucky stroke possible. It is the preliminary work, the method, that serves as a guide for the success of others. Among those earlier citizens of Gibson county who served their day and have now passed into the great beyond, leaving behind them the fruits of a proper life, is the subject of this sketch.

Henry C. Vickers, deceased, was born in 1833, in North Carolina, and died in Oakland City, Gibson county, Indiana, July 12, 1901. He came to Gibson county when a boy and was taken into the home of an uncle, Granderson Vickers, who resided near Providence church in Union township, this county. Here he grew to manhood, becoming efficient in agricultural work. Owing to circumstances, he received but a limited schooling in his youth, which was always a cause for regret with him. In 1873 he was united in marriage with Malissa Stephens, widow of Lewis Stephens, of Springfield, Illinois, and a daughter of Lemuel Emmerson, of Patoka township, Gibson county.

Lewis Stephens was a teacher in the public schools and also was engaged in agriculture near Fort Branch, Indiana. He married Malissa Emmerson in 1861. Not long after his marriage he enlisted for service in the war of the Rebellion, being a member of Company E, Eightieth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served three years. He re-enlisted for service in the same company and regiment and received a wound at the battle of Perrysville, from the effects of which he died at Louisville, Kentucky, in the hospital there. He had also suffered an attack of measles while in service. One son was born to the union of Lewis and Malissa (Emmerson) Stephens, being Charles, who is a teacher in the public schools at Jacksonville, Texas. His wife was Helen Follett and to them has been born one child, Pauline.

Shortly after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Vickers sold their farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Union township and moved to Oakland City, Indiana, where for many years Mr. Vickers was engaged in the dry goods business. In later years, the close confinement telling on him, he disposed of his business and engaged in truck gardening.

Mr. Vickers was a veteran of the Civil war, having enlisted in Company E, Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, at Princeton, and served until the close of the war. During this time he was shot in the ear, which destroyed his sense of hearing. He was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic at Oakland City and his religious sympathies were with the Cumberland Presbyterian church, of which he was a consistent member. Mrs. Vickers holds her church membership in the General Baptist church, and gives of her time and means to furthering the good work of that society. Politically, Mr. Vickers was a staunch Republican, always taking a quiet though keen interest in his party's affairs. Mr. and Mrs. Vickers were the parents of five children, three of whom are dead. Wilbur, Randolph and an infant son. Laura is the wife of Lewis Goff, of Winslow, Indiana, and is the mother of

two children, Mary L. and Margaret. Dale H., the only living son, resides with his mother and is engaged in sign and general painting at Oakland City.

The late Henry C. Vickers was of a retiring disposition and possessed of many admirable traits, making him a good husband and father and a good citizen. He was of genial nature, well liked and respected by a large number of friends.

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### GEORGE T. KENEIPP.

In a brief sketch of any living citizen it is difficult to do him exact and impartial justice, not so much, however, for lack of space or words to set forth the familiar and passing events of his personal history, as for want of the perfect and rounded conception of his whole life, which grows, develops and ripens, like fruit, to disclose its truest and best flavor only when it is mellowed by time. Daily contact with the man so familiarizes us with his virtues that we ordinarily overlook them and commonly underestimate their possessor. It is not often that true honor, public or private,—that honor which is the tribute of cordial respect and esteem,—comes to a man without basis in character and deeds. The world may be deceived by fortune, or by ornamental or showy qualities, without substantial merit, and may render to the undeserving a short-lived admiration, but the honor that wise and good men value and that lives beyond the grave must have its foundation in real worth, for "worth maketh the man." Not a few men live unheralded and almost unknown beyond the narrow limits of the city or community wherein their lots are cast, who yet have in them, if fortune had opened to them a wider sphere of life, the elements of character to make statesmen or public benefactors of world-wide fame. Compared with the blazon of fame which some regard as the real seal or stamp of greatness, there is a lowlier and simpler, and yet true standard whereby to judge of them and fix their place in the regard of their fellow men. During his life of nearly sixty years in Owensville, this county, its people have had means to know what manner of man George T. Keneipp is. The record of testimony is ample that he is a good citizen in the full sense of the term, and worthy of honor and public trust, ever doing worthily and well whatever he puts his hand to do—an encomium worthy of being coveted by every man.

George T. Keneipp, the son of Robert and America (Lucas) Keneipp, was born in Owensville, Indiana, April 11, 1853. Robert Keneipp was a native of Erie county, Ohio, and moved to Mount Carmel, Illinois, with his

parents when a small child. There he received his common school education and at an early age was apprenticed to a tanner. He grew to manhood in Mount Carmel and was married in that place. In 1852, when he was about twenty-six years of age, he came to Owensville, Gibson county, Indiana, where George T., the subject of this sketch, was born. In 1854 Mr. Keneipp began farming in Montgomery township, about one and one-half miles north of Owensville, on a forty-acre tract of land. After operating this farm for about a year, he moved five miles north of Owensville on a farm on Skelton creek, where he lived for three years. Then an opportunity presenting itself to enter the business world, he moved to Owensville and entered into a partnership with James Montgomery in the general mercantile business. Not finding this to his liking, he sold out his interest three years later and purchased a farm about one and one-half miles northwest of Owensville, the farm now occupied by his son, Fielding L. Here he lived until 1890, when he moved about one and one-half miles south of this farm to another place, where he spent the remainder of his days, his death occurring December 4, 1893. His wife, Mrs. Robert Keneipp, mother of the subject of this sketch, was a native of this county, and was born about one mile north of Owensville. She is still living with her son, Fielding, at the advanced age of eighty-four years. To these parents were born two children, Fielding L. and George T. Fielding married Edith Kirkpatrick and lives on the old homestead farm, and has three children, Nellie, who married Luther Knowles, who died some years ago, and now makes her home with her father on the farm; she has one child, Alvin; Anna May married Hugh Marvel, a farmer living on the home place, and is the mother of one daughter, Eugenia; Robert lives with his parents on the home farm.

George T. Keneipp was married October 20, 1875, to Kitty H., the daughter of Henry and Eliza (Mason) Matthews. Her father is a native of Buckinghamshire, England, and came to this country when the subject's wife was only six weeks old. They came to New Jersey, where they remained for four years, then they came west and settled near Evansville on a farm, where they remained for one year, but wishing to take up his old trade of miller, he moved to Hazleton, Gibson county, Indiana, where he entered the employ of Byram Bingham, who owned and conducted a large flouring mill. He worked in this mill for three years, when he came to Owensville and bought the old Star mill from John Walker. He continued to operate this mill until his death, which occurred February 12, 1877. His wife was also a native of England, and her death occurred February 5, 1911.

in Owensville, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Keneipp. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Matthews were the parents of six children: Emma, deceased; Harry, deceased; Thomas J.; Kitty; Joseph, deceased, and Wayne, deceased. Emma married John S. Lucas, and they had five children, Henry, John, Harvey, Emma, deceased, and Noble; Thomas J. married, first, Ella Barker, whose death occurred January 20, 1883, and subsequently he married Mrs. Martha Boren, and by his second marriage there were three children, Hugh, Byron and Paul.

To Mr. and Mrs. George Keneipp have been born six children: Arthur M., Hervey, Lucretia, deceased in 1908; Eunice, Elsie, deceased in 1897; and Zella. Arthur M. married Nola Bixler and lives on a farm about one mile west of his father's farm; they have one son, James, who lives at home, and one who died in infancy; Hervey married Margaret Dorsey, and lives on a farm near Owensville. He graduated in mechanical engineering from Purdue University in 1905, and afterwards spent two years in the Baltimore & Ohio railroad shops at Baltimore, but was compelled to return to agricultural life, because of his health, came back to Owensville and engaged in farming; he has two children, Harry and Warren; Eunice married Jesse Montgomery and resides in Owensville, and has two children, Alice and Philip; Zella married W. S. Jaques and lives on a farm about two miles west of Owensville, and has one child, Howard; Lucretia married H. A. Smothers, a veterinary surgeon in Mount Carmel, Illinois; they have one son, George; Elsie died at the age of eight years.

George T. Keneipp has had a very interesting career in this county, and is one of the best known business men within the limits of the county. After finishing his education in the Owensville high school he managed his father's farm until 1896, at which time he was appointed township trustee, holding this office until November, 1899. He had previously farmed with his father in partnership until 1882, when he bought a farm of his own of eighty-seven acres near Owensville, and remained on this place until 1890. In this year he bought the Barker farm of one hundred and seventy-six acres, and has since added twenty acres more to his holdings. This farm he has improved in every particular, has drained it, fenced it and brought it to a high state of cultivation. He has added all the modern improvements, which lighten the labor of the farmer, and is universally conceded to be one of the most progressive farmers in this locality.

Mr. Keneipp takes an active interest in the different fraternities of Owensville, being a member of four different fraternal organizations, the

Free and Accepted Masons, Modern Woodmen of America, the Tribe of Ben-Hur and the Court of Honor. Although he has always taken an active part in the deliberations of the Republican party, he has never held any political office except the office of trustee, which is held by appointment. He takes an intelligent interest in current affairs, and is well posted on all political questions of the day.

Mr. Keneipp and his wife have long been members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Owensville, he being a trustee and steward of the church, and they are both firm believers in the efficiency of the various church organizations. They do much good and devote a great deal of their time to the social and missionary work of their church.

Mr. Keneipp has been uniformly successful in all of his business transactions, and the directorate of the Owensville Banking Company has recognized his executive ability by electing him president of that company. He is a very companionable, quiet and unassuming man, and has reached his success in life only by hard work and painstaking effort. He is widely acquainted throughout the county and is well liked by all with whom he comes in contact. No movement which has for its object the betterment of the social, moral or religious welfare of his community is ever broached which does not find in him a ready and sympathetic helper. Such men as he are a blessing to the community in which they live.

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#### VICTOR LEMME.

Whether the elements of success in life are innate attributes of the individual or whether they are quickened by a process of circumstantial development it is impossible to determine. It is certainly true that the profession of teaching gives one habits of industry and application which are essential to success in any other profession. No one will gainsay the fact that fifteen years' experience in the school room is a very valuable asset to any man and when to this is added those sterling qualities of good common sense and sound business judgment, the man so blessed is sure to make a success in any undertaking. A gentleman with all these admirable qualities is Victor Lemme, and a perusal of his career should be an incentive to the younger generation.

Victor Lemme, the son of William C. and Maria A. (Burton) Lemme, was born September 14, 1873, in Barton township, Gibson county, Indiana.

His father came to America from Germany when he was ten years of age and, with his parents, settled in Vanderburg county, this state, where they lived for a short time before permanently removing to Gibson county. The mother of the subject died in February, 1893, leaving three children, Victor, the immediate subject of this sketch; Charles E., a fruit grower in Utah, and Herbert J., a court stenographer living at Princeton, Indiana. Some years after the death of Mrs. William Lemme, Mr. Lemme married again, and to this union were born two children, both of whom are still at home with their parents.

Victor Lemme was educated in the district schools of Barton township, and then completed his high school education at Princeton, following this with a course at the Central Normal College at Danville, Indiana, and was also a student in the Vincennes University, and one of the first students to enter the Oakland City College, which he attended for five terms. Thus equipped, he started out to teach in his home township and was a successful teacher in the county for fifteen years. He inherited from his parents the German habits of thrift and industry and invested his savings in land, spending his summers on the farm while he was teaching school. He continued his pedagogical work until 1908, when the citizens of his township prevailed upon him to run for the office of trustee, and showed their confidence in his ability by electing him to that office by a large majority. This office is one of the most important within the suffrages of the people, and he is discharging its duties to the entire satisfaction of the citizens of the township. He has twenty teachers under his jurisdiction and is rapidly bringing the schools of his township to a high state of excellence. During his term of office he has had one certified high school established, and the high school at Mackey is doing excellent work for the short time which it has been in existence. His term of office will not expire until January, 1915.

Mr. Lemme was married April 6, 1899, to Minnie Miller, daughter of Samuel and Cornelia (Stroud) Miller, both natives of South Carolina. Mr. and Mrs. Miller are the parents of three children, Minnie, the wife of the subject of this sketch; William B., a stock buyer at Somerville, and James S., who lives at home. To Mr. and Mrs. Lemme has been born one son, Maurice M., born February 23, 1905, who is now attending the schools in his township.

Mr. Lemme is now living on his farm of one hundred and thirteen acres, and is regarded as one of the most progressive and enterprising young farmers of his county. His teaching experience makes him a very competent



trustee, and the interests of the township are well served by him. Politically, he has always been a Democrat and his party has recognized his ability by electing him to his present office. Fraternally, he is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons and Knights of Pythias, his membership in both lodges being held at Oakland City. Mr. Lemmie has succeeded in his chosen vocation solely through his own courage and persistence, and he is a man who believes in lending whatever aid he can to his neighbors. He has not only attained a definite degree of success in his profession as teacher and farmer, but he has at the same time greatly benefited the community in which he lives, and for this reason well merits a place in a biographical volume of this nature.

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### JAMES L. STEWART.

The gentleman to a brief review of whose life and characteristics the reader's attention is herewith directed is among the favorably known and representative citizens of Oakland City, Gibson county, Indiana. He has by his enterprise and progressive methods contributed in a material way to the advancement of his locality and during the course of an honorable career has been fairly successful in his business enterprises, having been a man of energy, sound judgment and honesty of purpose, and is thus well deserving of mention in this volume.

James L. Stewart was born December 12, 1844, in Palmyra, Missouri, a son of Thomas P. and Frances (Sanders) Stewart, who were natives of Louisville, and after their marriage went westward into Missouri. James Stewart, the father of Thomas P., was a native of Georgia. He was descended from colonists who had accompanied the British General Oglethorpe when he came to the new world and founded the colony of Georgia. Later, James Stewart and family located in Kentucky, near Louisville, on the Beardstown pike, and where the first toll gate was located. There they obtained land which they cleared and where they made a comfortable home, and passed the remainder of their lives. James' wife was Jane Stephens, a cousin of Alexander H. Stephens, and to their union were born four children, namely: Susan, Sarah, Thomas P. (father of the immediate subject of this sketch) and James.

Thomas Patrick Stewart, father of James L., grew to manhood in Kentucky, having the advantage of but limited schooling, but was a self-taught



man. It was about 1835 when he went to Palmyra, Missouri, which was then but a small village indeed. The Indians were thick about the settlement and wild game of all kinds was plentiful. He was a plasterer by trade and this occupation he followed until his death in Palmyra, in 1880, at the advanced age of eighty years. His wife had died two years previously, at the age of seventy-two. Both were consistent members of the Christian church. He had originally been a staunch Whig in politics and at the dissolution of that party refused to cast his vote with the others then in existence, because he had been a leader of the Whig party until Horace Greeley ran for President in 1872 and for whose election he voted. Thomas P. Stewart and wife had a family of three children: Gabriella, widow of Thomas J. Johnson, resides in the state of Colorado; James L., the immediate subject of this sketch, and Sarah P., widow of James Reeves, of Montrose, Iowa.

The subject of this sketch received but very limited schooling when a boy and started out in life for himself when but a lad of fourteen years. He worked at various occupations and in various places for a time, and in 1863 or 1864 left Missouri, coming to Evansville, Indiana, and in January, 1865, he enlisted in Company A, One Hundred and Forty-third Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He was sent to Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Tallahassee and Clarksville and did garrison duty until October of the same year, when he was discharged. He returned to Evansville and came on to Princeton, Indiana, and has since been a resident of Gibson county. He first went to work for William H. Evans on the *Princeton Democrat*, where he stayed for a year, and from that time until 1878 he was a sort of journeyman printer, being employed on papers in various towns. In the year above mentioned, he settled in Oakland City, Indiana, where, on September 19, 1880, he was united in marriage to Alice M. Dickson, of Center township, Gibson county, a daughter of John and Catherine (Elliott) Dickson, who died in 1859. During the Civil war he served as a private in Company D, Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, having enlisted at Princeton. After the war he took up his old residence in Center township, later going to Illinois. However, he did not long remain there and returned to Gibson county, dying at Francisco in 1896. They were the parents of three children: Sarah, who is Mrs. James Woods, of Princeton; Mrs. Stewart, wife of the subject of this sketch, and Margaret, deceased.

Mr. Stewart has continued to reside in Oakland City since first going there before his marriage and is a plasterer by trade. He has also from time to time done some newspaper work. Mr. and Mrs. Stewart originally had

three sons and one daughter who died in infancy. The eldest son gave his life to his country during the Spanish-American war. This was Raymond T., born October 8, 1881. He received his education in the home schools and in November, 1898, enlisted in Company D, Twelfth Regiment Regular United States Army. He was a musician, a cornet player. He was sent direct to the Philippines and was in the battle of San Fernando Angeles. He contracted dysentery in a very bad form, was taken to the hospital on August 9th and remained there until January 2nd following. He was returned to the United States and died on February 18, 1900, at Presidio, California. The remains were returned to Oakland City and interred in Montgomery cemetery. Mattie, the daughter, born May 18, 1883, died August 27, 1883. Maxwell D., the second son, was born June 2, 1884, and was educated in the schools of his native town. He has always been employed by the Nordyke & Marmon Company at Indianapolis and resides there. He married Georgia Cooper and they have two children, Elénore and Charles. The third son, Donald W., was born July 23, 1893. He attended the grade and high schools at home and is now on the road for the Fairbanks-Morse Company of Indianapolis, selling their gasoline engines.

Mr. Stewart is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic at Oakland City and his religious affiliation is with the Christian church, while politically he is a stalwart supporter of the Democratic party. Fraternally, he is a member of Oakland City Lodge No. 467, Free and Accepted Masons. He is very well known throughout the county as a man whose principles of living are such as to win for him the high regard of all. He is a man who keeps well posted on current events and is considered one of the best impromptu speakers in Gibson county. During the years of his residence here, he has made many warm friends, which is a fitting tribute to a man's genuine worth.

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### ISAAC L. MOUNTS.

Too much honor cannot be given to the boys in blue who fought through the long and bloody struggle in the sixties. When they heard their country's call they forsook their ordinary vocations, enrolled under the stars and stripes, and with patriotic fervor and enthusiasm braved all the dangers of the battlefield in order that our beloved flag might continue to wave from the lakes to the gulf. The sacrifices they made cannot be calculated, the dangers they encountered cannot be computed, and yet they were never found unwill-

ing to do their full duty. The homage of a grateful people is theirs and we delight to accord them all the praise so justly due them. Among the few veterans who are left in Gibson county none are more deserving of a worthy place in this volume than the gallant old soldier whose name heads this sketch.

Isaac L. Mounts, one of the best known pioneer citizens of Gibson county, was born three miles south of Owensville, August 14, 1839, the son of Garrard and Martha (Montgomery) Mounts. Garrard Mounts, a native of Kentucky, migrated to this state in early life and settled on land near Black River, three miles south of Owensville. Mr. and Mrs. Garrard Mounts died several years ago. They were the parents of twelve children: Mrs. Nancy Emerson, deceased; Mrs. Almira Redman, deceased; Wesley, deceased; Smith, deceased; Mrs. Elizabeth Tribble, who is still living; Eliza Ellen, deceased; Parmelia, deceased; John D., deceased; Isaac L., the immediate subject of this sketch; Mrs. Martisha Redman; Indiana, and one child who died in infancy.

Isaac L. Mounts spent his boyhood days on the farm and received what meager schooling the district schools of the township afforded. At the opening of the Civil war he heard his country's call and responded with all the enthusiasm of youth, throwing his fortunes in with the thousands of young men who were ready to endure all dangers for their country's sake. He enlisted in Company F, Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, on November 25, 1862. His company was attached to the Army of the West and immediately after his enlistment he was transferred to Tennessee, where he participated in the second day's battle of Shiloh. It is not possible in this connection to detail all the fights and skirmishes through which the gallant Fifty-eighth fought. Among the more important engagements in which Mr. Mounts was a participant were Shiloh, Chickamauga, Chattanooga, Missionary Ridge, Stone's River and the siege of Knoxville. At Knoxville his company was organized into a pontoon train, and from that time until the end of the war they were building bridges and doing guard duty. After joining the pontoon brigade he engaged in no more battles, serving as a non-commissioned corporal from that time until the close of the war. He was mustered out at Indianapolis July 25, 1865. It is interesting to note at this place that the history of the Fifty-eighth Indiana Regiment has been compiled by Colonel Gil R. Stormont, of Princeton, the editor of this work.

After the close of the war Mr. Mounts returned to his home in Gibson county. He had gone through the whole war without being wounded or

having his health impaired, proof of which is evidenced by his good health at the present time. The fifty years which have elapsed since the close of the war have been spent in agricultural pursuits in this county, where he has brought his farm to a high state of cultivation. He is a very quiet, pleasant and unassuming man, keen of memory and progressive in his methods of business.

Mr. Mounts was married January 1, 1871, to Sarah E. Pritchett, the daughter of Elijah and Elizabeth (Rutledge) Pritchett, and to this union has been born one son, John, who is unmarried and lives at home with his parents; Ada, deceased; and Jessie, deceased.

Mr. Mounts is a man who by his own unaided efforts has worked his way from a modest beginning to a position of influence in his community. His life throughout his whole career has been one of unceasing industry and perseverance and the systematic and honorable methods which he has followed have won for him the unbounded confidence of his fellow citizens of Gibson, whose interests he has ever had at heart. His career presents a notable example of those qualities of mind and character which have ever overcome obstacles and won success, and his example is eminently worthy of imitation.

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#### ROBERT A. ALLEN.

Among the men who have led an eminently active and useful life in this county for the past fifty years the name of Robert A. Allen is prominent as one who has been identified with the life of the community in which he has lived. His career is that of an able and conscientious worker and his friends know him as a man of tireless industry and unafraid to carry out his convictions. As a man of high integrity and genial, affable nature, he has won countless friends among the good people of his locality, where he has lived so many years.

Robert A. Allen, the son of John and Letitia (Cook) Allen, was born in Gibson county, Indiana, on May 15, 1863. John Allen was born in Ireland in 1824 and it was there that he met and wooed the girl who became his wife, who was born in 1825. They came to America in 1851, landing at New Orleans and later moved to Princeton, where they remained for about ten years. They then moved to a farm in this county, just west of Princeton, known as the "Cherry Grove" farm, which they operated for about ten years.

after which they moved on the farm where Mr. Allen now lives. John Allen died on December 9, 1899, and his wife followed him to the other land on April 3, 1909. Mr. and Mrs. John Allen were the parents of a large family of eight children: Mrs. Catherine Sprow, who lives near Douglas Station; Andrew D., who resides in Alton, Missouri; Mrs. Letitia A. Lathrop, of Princeton; Mrs. Mary J. Knowles, who lives in Nebraska; Thomas, a farmer in this county; Mrs. Rebecca Schlamp, whose husband is a farmer in this county; Robert A., and James, who lives on a farm in Patoka township.

Robert A. Allen received the best education afforded by the district schools of his neighborhood and spent his childhood and early manhood working on the home farm. He has devoted his whole life to agricultural pursuits and has met with success commensurate with his efforts. He is practical and methodical in his labors and gives his personal attention to every detail of his farm work with the result that he has an enviable standing in the community because of his ability and success in his chosen vocation. In addition to the raising of grain and fruits, he also gives some attention to the breeding and raising of live stock, which he has found to be a profitable source of income. His farm of sixty-six and two-thirds acres is well improved in every respect. His substantial and attractive residence, commodious and well arranged barns and well kept fences all bear evidence to the wise discrimination and excellent taste of their owner.

Robert A. Allen was married March 22, 1900, to Rosa Laib, daughter of Lewis and Sophia (Blessing) Laib. Lewis Laib was born in Baltimore, Maryland, and it was there that he met his future wife. They came to Gibson county, Indiana, in 1857 and he has been a farmer in this county during all these years and is still living on his farm of one hundred and fifty-five acres near Princeton. His wife died January 7, 1914, and is buried in the Odd Fellows cemetery at Princeton. Mr. and Mrs. Laib were the parents of ten children: Edward, of Jackson, Tennessee; Jacob, of Evansville, Indiana; Rosa, wife of Mr. Allen; John, of Princeton, Indiana; Sophia, who lives at home with her father; Louis, who resides on his father's farm; Joseph, of Princeton; William, deceased September 18, 1897; Mrs. Maggie Park and Mrs. Nellie Bruce. Mr. and Mrs. Allen are the parents of three children, William L., Floyd R. and Hazel. Mrs. Allen is a lady of many kindly graces of head and heart, who has by her kindliness of manner and excellent qualities endeared herself to a large circle of friends.

Mr. Allen gives his ardent support to the Republican party and takes a deep interest in public affairs, although he is not in any sense a seeker after

public office. He and his wife are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church, Hights Chapel, and take an active part in supporting all worthy movements which have for their object the welfare of their fellow citizens. Mr. Allen has never shrunk from his duties as a citizen and his obligations to the church, his neighbors and friends. To him home life has been a sacred trust and nothing has happened which could swerve him from the path of rectitude and honor. He easily wins friends and always retains them and enjoys a marked degree of popularity in the county where so many of his active years have been spent.

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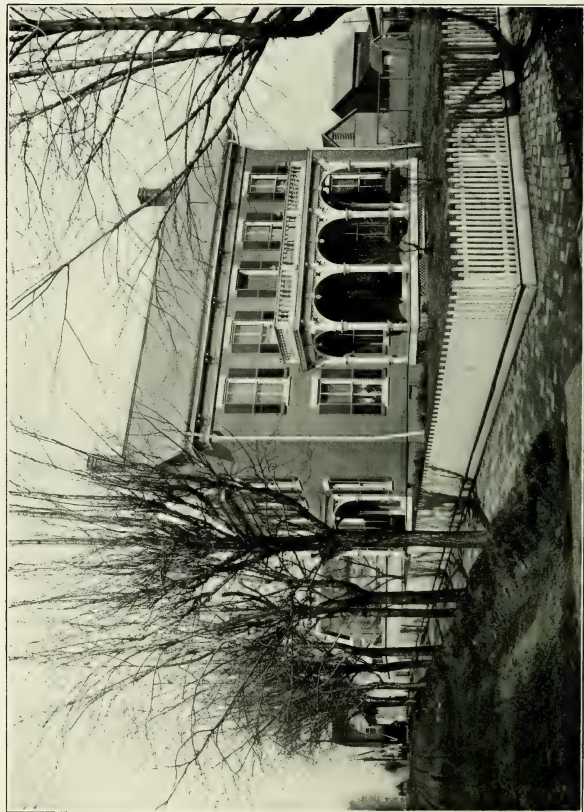
### THOMAS WARK.

Though many years have passed since the subject of this sketch passed from the life militant to the life triumphant, he is still favorably remembered by many of the older residents of Gibson county, and because of his many excellent personal qualities and the splendid and definite influence which his life shed over the entire community in which he lived many years, it is particularly consistent that specific mention should be made of him in a work containing mention of the representative persons of the county. A man of high moral character, unimpeachable integrity, persistent industry and excellent business judgment, he stood "four square to every wind that blows," and throughout the community he occupied an enviable position among his fellow men.

Thomas Wark was born July 12, 1811, in the township of Orbeg, county Donegal, Ireland, and died August 25, 1895, at Fort Branch, Gibson county, Indiana, at the age of eighty-four. He was a son of Joseph and Martha Wark. An ancestor of the subject removed from Scotland to Ireland and received a grant of land from the British government. According to the best information, this was about two hundred years ago, and the descendants of this ancestor have continued to hold this same land.

In 1832 Thomas Wark emigrated to America, landing at New Orleans and, coming up the Mississippi and the Ohio rivers, located at or near Evansville, Indiana, where for some years he was engaged in trading alone the river in eggs, chickens and produce. He later purchased land in Gibson county and farmed for some years. He had three brothers and one sister, the sister now being the wife of Joseph McClay. Stephen and Joseph en-





RESIDENCE OF MISS ELIZABETH IRWIN.





ISABELLA IRWIN.



listed on the Union side during the Civil war, Joseph having been a member of the Home Guard during the famous Morgan raids. Stephen, who had previously engaged in farming in Illinois, went to the front from that state, but Thomas, the immediate subject of this review, was in such a poor state of health that he could not enter the service of his country, much to his regret. About the close of the Civil war Thomas Wark moved to Fort Branch and made it his home the rest of his days, selling his farm and building an elegant modern residence in the town, which is now occupied by his grand-nieces, the Misses Irwin.

During his lifetime the subject made several trips to the Emerald Isle, and on his first visit brought with him on his return Isabella Irwin, daughter of his sister Isabella. She made her home with him and was of great comfort and help to the subject in the declining years of his life. On a later visit to his native land Mr. Wark brought back with him a grand-niece, the grand-daughter of his sister, Isabella Irwin, the child being but four and one-half years of age when she arrived in this country. She received a good education in the schools of Fort Branch and is now occupying the Wark residence, her parents having been John and Euphenie (Fawcett) Irwin, and her given name Elizabeth.

Mrs. Isabella Irwin came to join her sister in the summer of 1898 and still resides with her. The Irwin sisters are faithful members of the Methodist church and are charming and cultured ladies. They possess a beautiful home and have a splendid library and their social activities are confined to the most refined circles of their community.

Mr. Wark was a Republican and very staunch in his political views. He cast his first vote for William Henry Harrison and his last vote for Benjamin Harrison.

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#### JOHN A. SPENCE.

In examining the life records of self-made men it will invariably be found that indefatigable industry has constituted the basis of their success. Of course there are other elements which enter into and conserve the advancement of personal interest, but the foundation of all true success is earnest, persistent endeavor. John A. Spence, the subject of this sketch, is one of those self-made men who has achieved his success only by bringing to bear those sterling qualities of strict honesty and uprightness which are sure to

bring success. Starting in life with practically nothing, he has by his own unaided efforts, won a very comfortable competence, and now lives in a fine home surrounded by all the modern conveniences of life.

John A. Spence, the son of Gabriel and Martha (McWilliams) Spence, was born in Gibson county, March 6, 1861. His father was a native of Ireland and his mother was born in Gibson county, Indiana. Early in life he was a steamboat man on the Hudson river in New York, but later came to Indiana and settled in this county, where he married. To Gabriel Spence and wife were born five children: John A., the immediate subject of this sketch; Mrs. Emily Finney, who lives at Princeton, Indiana; James M., deceased; Jennie, who lives with her mother in Princeton, and Mrs. Cora Halfaker, who lives in Missouri. Mrs. Gabriel Spence, the mother of the subject, is still living in Princeton, her husband having died in July, 1901.

John A. Spence was educated in the district schools of Gibson county and worked on his father's farm until he was twenty years of age. On the day before he was twenty years of age he was married to Lottie E. Lockhart, the daughter of William and Minerva (Burton) Lockhart. Mr. Lockhart was a native of Ireland, while his wife was born in Indiana. To Mr. and Mrs. Lockhart were born seven children.

Mr. and Mrs. Spence started out in life with only one asset, in addition to their own good common sense and ability to work. This was a trotting mare, and they still have the old mare, now twenty-eight years of age. After their marriage they bought eighty acres of land two miles and a half south-east of Princeton, where they now live, and went into debt for all of it. However, by hard work and good management they succeeded in paying for this farm many years ago. Mrs. Spence has contributed no little to the success of the family and deserves an equal share of credit with her husband for their splendid home which they now enjoy. They have a fine, new modern house and all the conveniences of a city home. In addition to a general system of farming, Mr. Spence deals in blooded horses and also raises a considerable amount of hogs and milch cows.

Mr. and Mrs. Spence have reared an interesting family of five children, all of whom are still under the parental roof: Bertha, born September 8, 1892; Lester, born August 7, 1894; James, born November 22, 1895; Robert, born March 2, 1898, and Walter, born March 4, 1900.

Politically, Mr. Spence is an adherent of the Republican party, but has never sought any public office at the hands of his party. He and his family are loyal members of the Cumberland Presbyterian church in Princeton, and

contribute liberally to the support of that denomination. **Fraternally, Mr. Spence** is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is regarded by all as one of the representative and progressive men of his county, and has been a man of tireless energy and strong courage and thus has won and holds the unqualified esteem of his fellow citizens. He is known as one of the most active citizens in his agricultural and stock raising interests, and his labors have been a potent force in making this county known throughout the state for its excellent farms. His success can be attributed to his untiring energy and the exercise of the ordinary qualities of common sense, perseverance and sterling integrity.

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### RICHARD M. PARRETT.

One of the old and distinguished families of Gibson county, Indiana, which has left its impress upon the material and moral life of the county is the Parrett family. Robert Parrett came from England to America in 1814. He was born, reared and married in his native country and his oldest daughter, Mary Anne, was born on board ship on the voyage to this country. The ship in which they came to this country was called the "Mary Anne" hence the name of the first born daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Parrett were the parents of ten children, only one of whom, Eva, is now living. These children in order of their birth, are as follows: Mary Anne; John W., born 1818, who was a circuit-rider Methodist minister, farmer, lawyer and justice of the peace, and died in 1913, at the age of ninety-five; Richard M., deceased 1908; William F., who was judge for thirty years and a member of Congress for the Evansville district; Robert, was an attorney of Lagrange, Indiana; he was a major in the One Hundredth Regiment Indiana Volunteers, and was killed during a windstorm while at the front, a tree falling across his tent. He was brought back to his native state for burial; Mrs. Martha Roberts; Mrs. Sarah Reed, who was the wife of Rev. Hiram Reed, and lived at Evansville (he was at one time the pastor of the Englewood Methodist Episcopal church at Evansville, Indiana); Jane, who married Alva Johnson, an attorney of Evansville; Joseph was also a resident of Evansville; Eva, the only child of the ten living, married Union Bethel, of Newburg, Indiana, and is now past eighty years of age.

Robert Parrett, the father of Richard Parrett, the subject of this sketch, landed in New York on his way from England and went overland to Pitts-

burgh, Pennsylvania, and thence down the Ohio river to Cincinnati, Ohio. From thence he traveled overland to about fifty miles east of Vincennes, Indiana, where he remained for about a year. He then located near Blairsville, in Posey county, this state, where he lived for two or three years, after which he moved to Evansville, Indiana. Here he entered a large tract of land in the upper part of what is now Evansville, and he and his sons burned the brick and built the first Methodist Episcopal church in that city. He was a local preacher of that denomination and always took a great deal of interest in the establishment of new Methodist churches and was more or less of a circuit-riding preacher all of his life. He was one of the Methodists who was instrumental in establishing Asbury College at Greencastle, this state, now known as DePauw University.

Richard M. Parrett, the immediate subject of this sketch, received his early training in the district schools of Vanderburg county, this state, and later with his brother, John, he attended Asbury College at Greencastle. While they were in attendance at Asbury College they wished to come home for vacation, so they walked from Greencastle to Terre Haute, and then took a little boat to Mt. Carmel, and from thence they again walked to Evansville to spend the vacation between terms. After Richard had finished his education, he and his brother, William F., went overland to Oregon. Both the brothers were married at this time, and took their wives with them on the long trip to the far west in 1842, and both of their wives died in that state. William Parrett only stayed a short time in Oregon, but Richard remained and taught the Indians for some time. He received an appointment from the government as governor of the Indian agency and remained there for two years among the Indians. He then returned to Indiana and married a second time. Upon his return to this state he settled in Evansville and engaged in the manufacture of brick and later his father and his mother's father helped him to buy a farm at Patoka, in Gibson county. He drove through from Evansville to his new home, his wife and son making the trip on the train, being among the first passengers to make the trip on the new railroad, which only ran as far north as White river. He resided on this farm from 1853 until 1862, when he sold it and moved to Henry county, Indiana, where he settled on a farm near Dunreith. After a residence of two years in Henry county, he sold out and bought a farm south of Princeton, this county, and three years later he traded this tract for a farm north of Patoka, where his son, Charles, now lives. He continued to reside on this farm until he sold it to his son and removed to Patoka, where his death occurred in 1898, his

wife surviving him ten years. Richard M. Parrett was twice married. His first wife died in Oregon during his stay in that state. His second wife was Anna Eliza Hudelson, of Gibson county, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Hudelson, whom he met while coming home for his vacation from Asbury College, where he was attending school. There were two children by the first marriage, both of whom are deceased. By the second marriage there were six children who lived to maturity: Robert N., born in Evansville, December 3, 1849; Estella, who married Willoughby Witherspoon, and lives in Indianapolis; Frank H., a farmer living near Oakland City; William F., a banker of Patoka, Indiana; Charles K., who is living on the old homestead near Patoka; and Bessie, the wife of E. H. Jenne, of Greencastle, Indiana.

R. N. Parrett received his education in the primitive schools of his county, his first school house being a log structure at Miller's Station. Later he attended school at Patoka, and when his parents moved to Henry county, this state, he was in school during their residence there. Upon their return to Gibson county, he entered the Gorley school south of Princeton and other schools in his township. He finished his education by taking a course in the normal school at Lebanon, Ohio. After finishing his schooling he went into the sawmill business and continued to follow this occupation in Patoka and White River townships for the next thirty years. He was very successful in this business and accumulated a very comfortable competence, and in 1900 he bought a half interest in the Princeton Light and Power Company. In 1901 he moved to Princeton and has continued to reside in that place since. The Princeton Light and Power Company was incorporated in 1893 with a capital stock of one hundred thousand dollars. At the present time H. C. Barr is president; John M. Parrett, secretary and treasurer, and R. N. Parrett, superintendent. In 1890, R. N. Parrett helped to organize the Farmers Bank at Princeton, and he has been connected with this financial institution since the date of its organization until charter expired. He is also a director in the People's National Bank of Princeton, and helped organize the Princeton Telephone Company, of which he is now president. He was also at one time connected with the Hazleton bank, but disposed of his interests there in order to devote more time to his interests in Princeton.

R. N. Parrett was twice married, his first wife being Maria Gorley, of Patoka township, whose death occurred in 1872, leaving two sons, John M., of Princeton, who is secretary-treasurer of the Princeton Light and Power Company. John married Nettie Berger. The other son by the first marriage is Fred R., who is manager of the Princeton Independent Telephone Com-

pany. He married Cora Caterjohn. R. N. Parrett's second wife was Nancy E. Little, of Patoka, Indiana, the daughter of Robert and ——— (Hartin) Little, and to this union there have been born eight children: Mable, the wife of L. K. Redman, who is now general agent for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company, which has headquarters at Terre Haute, Indiana; Nell, deceased, March, 1914, who married Arthur Book, shoe merchant of Princeton; Richard R., who is now with his father; Jessie, deceased; Mary, who is still at home; William Fletcher, who is connected with the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company at Terre Haute; Morton Chester, who is attending the high school at Princeton, and Catherine, also attending school.

R. N. Parrett has been a life-long Republican, but has never been a seeker after any political office. His extensive business interests have absorbed all of his time and attention and he has never felt that he had the time to indulge in the game of politics. He is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Princeton, and for many years has been a trustee in the church. Mr. Parrett is a man of excellent endowments and upright character and has been a valued factor in local affairs in Gibson county for many years. He has ever commanded the entire confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens and has been vigilant in his efforts to further the interests of his city and county along material, moral and civic lines.

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#### WILLIAM A. WHITSITT.

One of the enterprising and successful farmers of Gibson county, who has succeeded in his chosen vocation through his courage, persistency and good management is William A. Whitsitt, who comes from a distinguished family of this county. He has not only attained to a definite degree of success in agricultural pursuits, but at the same time he has stood for those things which make for the benefit of the community in which he lives, and for this reason is one well worthy of mention in a biographical volume of this nature.

William A. Whitsitt, the son of William B. and Margaret (McClure) Whitsitt, was born on July 15, 1880, in Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, both his parents also being natives of this county. His father, William B., still resides with his son on the old home farm. His mother's death occurred January 14, 1908. William B. Whitsitt has followed the occupation of a



farmer all his life and is one of the most successful and highly respected old veterans in the county. At the time our country was in danger during the Civil war, he enlisted and went to the front with the Tenth Regiment of Indiana Volunteer Cavalry and served for about one year and a half, being mustered out in June, 1865, at Vicksburg, Mississippi. Immediately after the close of the war he returned to Gibson county, and in 1869 he was married to Margaret McClure, the daughter of Joseph and Catherine N. (Devine) McClure, and to this union were born four children: Samuel C., Joseph P. and Anna B., who are all deceased, William A., the immediate subject of this sketch, being the only surviving child.

William A. Whitsitt was given the best education which the district schools of this county afforded at that time, and while he was attending school, he put in all of his spare time working on his father's farm. He is now the owner of a fine farm near Princeton, which he has brought to a high state of cultivation, and his ninety-three acres is one of the highest priced tracts in the county. Here he raises all the crops common to this locality and in addition is a breeder of pedigreed Holstein cattle. His farm is well equipped with all modern machinery and agricultural accessories and he also has a fine home and excellent barn and other outbuildings. He keeps abreast of the times in every way and is looked upon as one of the most progressive young farmers of this locality.

Mr. Whitsitt was married January 29, 1903, to Leafy L. Myers, the daughter of Aaron and Hannah S. (Cole) Myers. Aaron Myers is a native of Gibson county, while his wife was born in Vanderburg county, this state. Mr. and Mrs. Whitsitt are the parents of four children: Helen F., born August 6, 1905; William E., born March 6, 1907; Robert F., born March 15, 1909, and Wayne A., born February 11, 1912. All of these children were born in Gibson county except William, who was born in Lawrence county, Illinois.

The father of William A. Whitsitt is residing with him on the farm, as is the mother of Mrs. Whitsitt. Both father and son have always voted the Republican ticket until the fall of 1912, when they cast their lot with the new Progressive party. All the members of the family are adherents of the Methodist Episcopal church at Princeton, and are interested in its various activities. William B. Whitsitt is a charter member of the Grand Army of the Republic Post No. 28, at Princeton.

William A. Whitsitt is a quiet and unassuming man, who has never had any ambition for public office, but has contributed according to his means

to the civic and moral advancement of his community, while his admirable daily life has won for him the respect and confidence of the circles in which he moves. He and his wife have a large circle of friends who admire them for their hearty hospitality and wholesome influence in the community where they reside. They are friends to the poor and charitable to the faults of their neighbors and always stand ready to unite with their fellow citizens in every good work.

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### CYRUS N. ESKEW.

The science of agriculture—for it is a science as well as an art—finds an able demonstrator as well as successful practitioner in the person of Cyrus N. Eskew, who is widely known in Gibson county, maintaining a very productive and desirable farm in Patoka township. He comes of a very highly honored pioneer family, members of which have played well their parts in the general development of this favored section of the great Indiana commonwealth.

Cyrus N. Eskew was born on February 5, 1857, in Boone township, Warrick county, Indiana, the son of John and Annie (Carter) Eskew, both born and raised near Bowling Green, Kentucky. John Eskew came to Indiana in early manhood with his parents, James Eskew and wife, who obtained a wild tract of land in Boone township, Warrick county, to the clearing and cultivation of which they devoted their sole attention. James Eskew followed farming throughout his active life, and was a man of sound principles, persistent industry and genuine worth. John Eskew was reared on the paternal farm in Warrick county, and had but little opportunity to go to school, his early years being required in the strenuous labor of the frontier farm. However, he was ambitious to secure an education, and by hard and persistent home study he became a well-informed man. After his marriage he acquired a tract of land adjoining his father's farm, which, when cleared, developed into a splendid farm. In the spring of 1869 he located near Oakland City, Gibson county, where he lived until his death, which occurred in January, 1911. His wife had died many years before, passing away in 1860. For his second wife he married Mrs. Martha J. Wakeland, the widow of Samuel Wakeland, who is now living near Oakland City. By his first wife John Eskew is the father of the following children: Delia C., who died in March, 1912, was the wife of Daniel Tracer, a farmer in Gibson county; Julia Ann, also deceased, was the wife of Shedrick Parker, a Gibson county farmer; Thomas B., who is a farmer in Warrick county, Indiana, married



C. N. ESKEW AND FAMILY.



Melinda Robison; Cyrus, the immediate subject of this sketch; Jasper, a farmer at Francisco. To John Eskew's second marriage were born four children, namely: Sylvester, deceased; Sarah J., the wife of William Collins, a farmer near Oakland City; John Franklin, a farmer near Oakland City, who married Mattie Spore, and Emma, the wife of James Harbison, who lives near Francisco.

Cyrus N. Eskew had but little opportunities for securing an education and remained under the parental roof until nineteen years of age. He then began farming on his own account near Patoka, but four years later moved to Patoka and there followed agricultural pursuits for a like period. Mr. Eskew maintained his residence in Patoka until 1888, when he moved to King's Station, Indiana, where he rented land and farmed for eighteen years. At the end of this period he bought the sixty-four acre tract on which he now lives and also forty-three and one-half acres in another tract, and has since given his attention to its operation. He has also for the past three years been engaged in the grain and coal business at King's Station, in which he has met with pronounced success, his treatment of his customers being such as to retain their friendship and patronage. By his persistent efforts and good management Mr. Eskew has been enabled to gain a distinctive success in the various lines of effort to which he has applied himself and won a large following of warm and loyal friends since locating in Gibson county.

On December 14, 1882, Mr. Eskew married Mary C. Harris, who was born in Patoka, the daughter of John Wesley and Hannah (Key) Harris, the father born in 1833, near Chattanooga, and the mother a native of Gibson county, Indiana. John W. Harris came to Gibson county in 1860, settling in Patoka, where he followed the trade of carpentry. Mr. Harris was a member of the Baptist church, his wife holding membership in the Methodist Episcopal church. The Harris family has for many years been prominent in the various localities where its members have lived, and was among the early settlers of Harrisburg, Dauphin county, Pennsylvania. Prior to her marriage to Mr. Harris, Mrs. Harris was the wife of William Johnson, of Patoka, and to them were born three children, Alice Melinda, the wife of William Stermer, of Patoka, Lizzie Etter, the wife of Newton Etter, and Charles, who died in 1912. To Mr. and Mrs. Harris were born the following children: Mary C. (Mrs. Eskew); Fannie, the wife of John Jones, of Patoka; John, who has been a member of the fire department of Memphis, Tennessee, for several years, married Kate Burbank; Frank, of Indianapolis, a traveling salesman, married Pearl Hitch; Nora is the wife of Preston Mil-

burn, of Patoka; Wallace, a grain dealer of Patoka, married Stella Trippert, and Minnie, who died in early youth. To Mr. and Mrs. Eskew have been born two children, Estella M., the wife of Arch Whittaker, a farmer at King's Station, and they have two children, Mary Helen and John L.; Marjorie Geraldine is at home with her parents. Estella, who graduated from the Princeton high school with the class of 1903, was a teacher for three years. Mr. Eskew has always taken a deep interest in educational matters and has served efficiently as school director at King's Station, and as a staunch Republican he has always been active in the support of his political party. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, to which they give earnest support. They are well known throughout the community and enjoy the friendship and esteem of all who know them.

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### PRESTON MILBURN.

The following is the sketch of a plain, honest man of affairs, who by correct methods and a strict regard for the interests of his patrons has made his influence felt in Patoka and won for himself distinctive prestige in the business circles of that city. He would be the last man to sit for romance or become the subject of fancy sketches, nevertheless his life presents much that is interesting and valuable and may be studied with profit by the young, whose careers are yet to be achieved. He is one of those whose integrity and strength of character must force them into an admirable notoriety which their modesty never seeks, who command the respect of their contemporaries and their posterity and leave the impress of their individuality deeply stamped upon the community.

Preston Milburn, a successful merchant and prominent citizen of Patoka, was born in Lynn county, Missouri, on May 1, 1867, the son of Captain Augusta and Belle (Devin) Milburn. The father was born on the old Milburn homestead in Gibson county, Indiana, on December 23, 1838, and the mother was born in Gibson county about 1841 on the old Tichenor homestead. The father was a farmer, and was a veteran of the Civil war, having served as captain of Company C, Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, in which he saw service from 1861 to 1865. At the battle of Missionary Ridge he was severely wounded, the bullet striking his nose and passed through his face and right jaw, coming out through the neck. He was in the

battle of Shiloh and all the other important battles in which the Fifty-eighth Regiment took part.

He received his education in the public schools at Patoka, and in 1866 the family went to Missouri. In 1874 they returned to Gibson county, where he followed farming up to the last few years, when he retired from active labor and his death occurred in August, 1907. His wife died in 1890. They were the parents of five children, of whom, Preston, the subject of this sketch, was the first born, the others being Alexander D., deceased; Harvey; Sue, the wife of Oscar Witherspoon; and Mary, the wife of D. R. Trippett, of Memphis, Tennessee.

Preston Milburn, after completing his education in the common schools, engaged in teaching for five years in White River township, and then for some time was employed as clerk in a store at Patoka. On May 1, 1897, he became postmaster of Patoka, in which position he served for eleven consecutive years, giving eminent satisfaction not only to patrons of the office but to the postoffice department. Since March 10, 1904, Mr. Milburn has been engaged in the general mercantile business in Patoka, he and his brother, Alexander D., buying the property from F. A. White. Eventually his brother died, February 27, 1910, and the subject has since conducted the business on his own account. He has been very successful in his enterprise and has also acquired the ownership of a farm of three hundred and forty-five acres of bottom land in White River township, which has proven a comfortable source of income.

On June 10, 1896, Preston Milburn married Nora Harris, the daughter of J. W. and Hannah Harris, of Patoka, and to them have been born three children: Alexander, Almyra and Josephine.

Politically, Mr. Milburn has been a life-long Republican, and has taken a deep interest in the success of his party. Religiously, he is affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church to which he gives earnest support. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Free and Accepted Masons at Patoka. His career has ever been an honorable one, his relations to his fellowmen have always been above reproach, and his good name beyond criticism. He wears the proud American title of "self-made man" and being in the most literal sense of the term the architect of his own fortune, he may well feel a sense of pride in his achievement and the honorable position to which he has attained among the enterprising citizens of the county, in which the busy years of his active life have been passed.

## W. H. LOWERY.

Specific mention is made of many of the worthy citizens of Gibson county within the pages of this book, citizens who have figured in the growth and development of this favored locality and whose interests are identified with its every phase of progress, each contributing in his sphere of action to the well-being of the community in which he resides and to the advancement of its normal and legitimate growth. Among this number is he whose name appears above, peculiar interest attaching to his career from the fact that his entire useful and busy life has been spent within the borders of this county.

W. H. Lowery, who is conducting a prosperous and successful meat market in Oakland City, Indiana, is a native son of the old Hoosier state, having been born in Washington county, Indiana, on January 24, 1858. His parents, John A. and Mary J. (Harmon) Lowery, were also natives of Washington county, where in early life the father followed farming. Later he located near Fredericksburg, in the same county, and engaged in the mercantile business. About thirty-three years ago he came to Gibson county and located in Oakland City where he engaged in mercantile business until about two years prior to his death, which occurred in 1906 at Somerville, this county. He was survived about four years by his widow, who died in 1910. She was a member of the Christian church for over sixty years, and was one of exemplary character and excellent qualities of head and heart, retaining to a marked degree the love and respect of all who knew her. To Mr. and Mrs. Lowery were born five children: James Franklin, of Washington county, Indiana; W. H., the immediate subject of this sketch; Henry T., deceased; H. P., of Mt. Carmel, Illinois; and Carrie, the wife of Walter Downey, of Francisco, Gibson county.

W. H. Lowery attended the public schools of his home neighborhood in Washington county, and was reared to the life of a farmer, which pursuit he followed for a number of years. About two years after his father came to Gibson county, the subject followed him, and here engaged in farming and teaming for four or five years. About twenty-five years ago he established his present meat market, in which enterprise he was successful from the start, and for a number of years has been the leader of his line in his community. He does much of his own butchering and keeps none but the very best grades of meat, and this fact, together with his courtesy, and evident desire to please his customers, has retained for him a large and representative patronage.

On October 2, 1879, Mr. Lowery married Isabella McKinster, of Wash-



ington county, Indiana, and to them have been born four children: Emma, the wife of Elwood Burkhardt, of Oakland City; E. P., of Oakland City; Lydia, the wife of Lennie Siple, of Oakland City; and Masel, of this place.

Politically, Mr. Lowery is a staunch supporter of the Republican party, although he has been too busy a man to seek public office. His fraternal affiliations are with the Modern Woodmen of America, while religiously he is a member of the General Baptist church at Oakland City. He has always been interested in the public and civic affairs of the community, and has identified himself with business affairs aside from his market, being a director in the First National Bank, and giving his support to every movement calculated to advance the best interests of the community. Genial and unassuming in his relations with his fellowmen, he is deservedly popular, and ranks among the leading citizens of Oakland City.

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#### ABSALOM YEAGER.

The gentleman whose name open this review long occupied an eminent and enviable standing in the county where he so long made his home, and he preserved to an unusually large degree the confidence and respect of the people with whom he had so long been associated. His standing was not acquired by him because of the influence of wealth, or original social position, or the aid of influential friends, but was honestly earned and richly merited by his own inherent worth; by the possession of those traits of character which have always found expression in a life devoted to the welfare of his own home circle and to the progress and advancement of the community with which he was so closely connected. Perhaps his dominant and most notable characteristic was fidelity to truth and honor. He invariably sought the things that were honest and of good repute. In the training of his children no precept was so constantly and so urgently insisted on as those which concerned sound and worthy characters. Although his life was a busy one, his every-day affairs making heavy demands upon his time, he never shrank from his duty as a citizen and his obligation to the community. To write a detailed account of his long and useful life would require a much more elaborate article than the nature of this volume admits or requires. Sufficient will be said, however, to form a correct conception of the man and his career, a career affording many valuable lessons to the young of the rising generation.

Absalom Yeager is a son of one of the old sterling families of German

origin, his ancestors having come to this country some time during the eighteenth century, and settled in Virginia. Joel Yeager, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Jefferson county, Virginia, in 1789. While yet a young man, he removed to Kentucky, settling near Mt. Sterling, where he was married and where he remained until about 1826, when he came to Indiana and settled at a point one mile north of Cynthiana, Posey county. There he followed the peaceful vocation of farming until his death. While a resident of Kentucky, he had married Anna McDonald, also a resident of that state, but a native of Virginia. Her death also occurred in Posey county. They were the parents of four children, three sons and a daughter, of whom the youngest was Absalom Yeager, the immediate subject of this sketch, whose birth occurred in Campbell county, Kentucky, in 1819, and who accompanied his parents on their removal to Indiana. In 1842 Absalom Yeager came to Gibson county, settling on a tract of timbered land in Johnson township, where he cleared and developed a farm, and continued to reside for many years, being numbered among the sturdy pioneers of that locality. He followed agriculture during all of his active years, and was noted among the substantial and enterprising citizens of the locality.

In November, 1842, Absalom Yeager married Elizabeth Williams, who was born in Posey county in 1822, daughter of Bennett and Polly Williams, and to this union were born seven children: Henry A., a prominent attorney of Princeton, Indiana; Newton; James M.; Mary A., who died on April 11, 1896; Andrew J.; William C., trustee of White River township, and a citizen of Patoka; and Emma F. In November, 1892, Absalom Yeager and his wife celebrated the golden anniversary of their wedding, and the occasion was made a happy and joyous one, not only to this grand old couple, but to their children, and other relatives who attended the happy occasion. Mr. and Mrs. Yeager were for many years earnest and faithful members of the Baptist church, giving of their means to its support, and being actively interested in the various affairs of usefulness connected with the religious work of this society. Mr. Yeager died in December, 1903.

Absalom Yeager belonged to a class of men of whom Indiana has great reason to be proud, for he was of that type who brought order out of chaos, and, unheeding hardships and dangers, he conquered the forests and changed them to productive fields, whence came the sustenance of the people. The farmer of the long ago opened the way to our present prosperity. The labor and thought involved in obtaining a living from the land in those days stimulated both mental and physical nature until he became strong and willing to

undergo hardships and privations and win such results. Of such was Mr. Yeager, whose influence during an eminently industrious life made for the progress of the community, whose interests he ever had at heart. His record is the story of a life whose success in life is measured by its usefulness, a life that made for good in all its relations with the world. And his career, though in a sense uneventful, is well worth being preserved on the pages of the history of his community.

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### W. H. SMITH, M. D.

The present age is essentially utilitarian and the life of every successful man carries a lesson which, told in contemporary narrative, is productive of much good in shaping the destiny of others. There is, therefore, a due measure of satisfaction in presenting, even in brief resume, the life and achievements of such men, and in preparing the following history of the scholarly physician whose name appears above, it is with the hope that it may prove not only interesting and instructive, but also serve as an incentive to those who contemplate making the medical profession their life work.

W. H. Smith was born in Pike county, Indiana, November 18, 1870, the son of Dr. J. T. and Charlotte (Martin) Smith, the former a native of Clarksville, Tennessee, and the mother of Pike county, Indiana. Dr. J. T. Smith, who is nearly eighty years old, has been a practicing physician in Pike county for forty years, living at Hosmer, where he has enjoyed the confidence and esteem of the community, and where he has been eminently successful in the practice of his profession. His wife is deceased. They were the parents of three children, two of whom, the subject and one sister, Mrs. Zack Welton, of Hosmer, are living. W. H. Smith attended the schools of Pike county, and supplemented the education there received by attendance in the high school at Oakland City. Having determined to make the practice of medicine his life work, he entered the Kentucky School of Medicine at Louisville, where he was graduated in 1893 with the degree of Doctor of Medicine, and in June of the same year he entered upon the active practice at Hosmer, Pike county, where he remained six years. In 1889, desiring a larger field for his efforts, Dr. Smith came to Oakland City, where he has since resided and where he has achieved a reputation as a practitioner of the healing art. He realized early that there is a purpose in life and that there is no honor not founded on worth and no respect not founded on accomplishments. His life

and labor have been eminently worthy, because they have contributed to a proper understanding of life and its problems. By a life characterized by high motives and because of his many fine qualities of head and heart he has earned the sincere regard of a vast acquaintance, and his success in his chosen field of endeavor bespeaks for him the possession of superior attributes. Yet he is a plain, unassuming gentleman and straightforward in all his relations with his fellowmen.

On April 25, 1895, Dr. Smith married Joan McHugh, a native of Pike county. She is a lady of culture and refinement and is a popular member of the circles in which she moves. Dr. Smith is a Republican in his political affiliations, but has been too busy a man to take a very active part in political affairs. Fraternally, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America, while professionally, he is a member of the Medical Society of Gibson county, and Indiana State Medical Association. He is health officer of Oakland City, and has taken a deep interest in all civic affairs connected with the welfare of his fellow citizens. He has been successful in his financial affairs, and is the owner of a splendid farm in Pike county. Genial and hospitable by nature, he has earned a high place in the esteem of all who know him and is rightfully included in the list of representative citizens of his community.

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### JONAH G. LEGRANGE.

Among the men of sturdy integrity and reliable traits of character who have contributed their quota to the advancement of the upbuilding of Gibson county, Indiana, mention may most consistently be made of the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this sketch. The prosperity which he enjoys has been won by commendable qualities and it is also his personal worth that has gained for him the esteem of those who know him.

Jonah G. LeGrange, one of the leading stock men and successful farmers of Gibson county, Indiana, was born on July 27, 1858, on the old LeGrange homestead, Patoka township, and is the son of Richard and Hannah (Tichenor) LeGrange, both of whom were natives of Kentucky. The subject's maternal grandfather, who also was a farmer, was twice married, and he became the father of the following children: Aaron, who was a farmer near Fort Branch, this county, died at Owensville; John, also deceased, was a farmer in Patoka township and died there; William was also a farmer



JONAH G. LE GRANGE.



in Patoka township and died there; Peter died in youth; Richard was the father of the subject of this sketch; Ann became the wife of a Mr. Mounts, of Patoka township; the ninth became the wife of Joshua Embree, and lived and died in Wabash township, this county; Polly Ann became the wife of Rev. T. M. Strain, of Fort Branch. Richard LeGrange, father of the subject, had only a common school education, being a self-learned man, but becoming widely informed on general questions. After his marriage he located four miles west of Princeton in Patoka township, where, on section 11, he located and cleared a fine farm, and there reared his family. Subsequently, having gained a competency, he retired from active labor, and moved to Princeton, this county, where his death occurred in 1872. For his second wife he married Mrs. Mary Thornburg, of Newburg. He was widely known throughout this section of the county and was respected by all who knew him. An old-line Whig in his early political proclivities, later he became allied with the Republican party, to which he gave stanch support during the rest of his life. Religiously, he and his wife were members of the General Baptist church. By his marriage to Hannah Tichenor he became the father of five children: Ann Eliza, deceased, was the wife of Lewis Binkley, of Princeton; Clarence, deceased, married Nan LeGrange, who now lives in Princeton; Jonah, the subject of this sketch; George, now deceased, married Lillie Whittaker, who, after his death, became the wife of Oscar LaGrange, of Patoka township.

The subject of this sketch received his education in the home schools and at Fort Branch, and lived at home until he was twenty-two years of age. He has followed agricultural pursuits throughout his active life, with the exception of a period of thirteen years, when he lived at Princeton, engaged in the mercantile business, which he later sold to George Skelton. In all the enterprises to which he has given his attention he has been eminently successful and for many years he has been numbered among the progressive and successful business men of the county. He is the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and twenty acres besides the home place in Patoka township, and also of one hundred and sixty acres in Union township. He carries on a general farming business, and also gives considerable attention to live stock, raising a good many Duroc Jersey Red hogs, Hereford cattle and Percheron horses. He has always bought and sold large numbers of live stock, and has found it a very profitable source of income.

When about twenty-two years of age, the subject of this sketch was

married to Margaret Ayres, of Patoka township, this county, the daughter of James and Sarah Ann (Davis) Ayres. Her father came early to Gibson county with his family, settling south of Princeton in Patoka township, and was numbered among the first settlers. They located in section 31, where the father successfully followed farming pursuits, and was numbered among the leading citizens of his locality. To Mr. and Mrs. LeGrange have been born three children, George, who died young, one who died in infancy, and Clarence, born February 21, 1894, who remained at home. He is a graduate of the Princeton high school, with the class of 1913, and is an estimable and promising young man.

Politically, Mr. LeGrange has given a life-long support to the Republican party, and while a resident of Princeton rendered efficient service as a member of the town council. Religiously, he and his family are identified with the General Baptist church, to the support of which they contribute liberally. Fraternally, Mr. LeGrange is an appreciative member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, belonging to the subordinate lodge at Princeton.

Mr. LeGrange has performed well his part in life, and it is a compliment worthily bestowed to say that this locality is honored in his citizenship, for he has achieved eminent success through his own efforts and has always stood for what is best in life, giving his support to all movements having for their object the betterment of the public welfare. Because of his genial disposition and unassuming manner, he has gained and retains the friendship of all who know him.

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### HUGH D. MCGARY.

Among the honorable and influential citizens of Gibson county, Indiana, is the subject of this review, who has here maintained his home for many years, winning a definite success by means of the agricultural industry, to which he has devoted his attention during the years of an active business life. His career has been without shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil, and thus he has ever commanded the confidence and esteem of his fellowmen.

Hugh D. McGary was born on February 7, 1839, in Montgomery township, Gibson county, Indiana, and is a son of Harrison and Nancy (Pritchard) McGary, the father a native of Kentucky, and the mother a native of North Carolina. Harrison D. McGary, who had been a soldier in the war of 1812, accidentally came to Gibson county where he entered a tract of land in Mont-



gomery township, to the clearing and cultivation of which he devoted his attention until his death, which occurred in 1845. He was survived several years by his widow. They became the parents of three children, namely: William H., who was killed in the battle of Stone's River, January 31, 1862; Joseph K. and Hugh D., both of whom were also veterans of the Civil war. Hugh McGary was reared on the paternal homestead, where he remained until 1884, when he removed to Princeton. Four years later he returned to the farm, and the following year went to California, where he remained two years. Then returning to Gibson county, he located at Fort Branch, where he now resides, although he has business interests in Princeton. Both as farmer and business man Mr. McGary's record has been characterized by persistent industry, sound business judgment and wise discrimination in the conduct of his affairs, so that he was enabled to accumulate a competency which has made his later years free from care.

Mr. McGary has a most honorable military record, he having enlisted on May 24, 1861, for a period of three years, at a time when the greater number of enlistments were for only three months, and Mr. McGary now claims that no one outside of his regiment enlisted at that time for the three-year period. His command was assigned to the Western army, in which he saw much hard service under Col. R. H. Smith, participating in all of the campaigns for which the western army was noted and including the terrible battles at Shiloh, Stone's River, Chickamauga, Chattanooga and Atlanta. He is now a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, where, with his comrades, he keeps alive the memories of days gone by. In 1884 Mr. McGary was elected sheriff of Gibson county, and was re-elected in 1886. In 1898 he was elected to represent Gibson county in the Indiana Legislature, performing his duties to the satisfaction of his constituents. He has for many years taken a prominent part in local public affairs. His political affiliations have always been with the Republican party, while religiously he has long been an earnest and devoted member of the General Baptist church at Fort Branch.

On September 26, 1867, he was married to Sarah C. Weed, a native of Gibson county, and to them have been born three children: Zenas C., who lives on the old home farm in Montgomery township; Clyde C., who lives in Vinita, Oklahoma; and Maud, the wife of John Lucas, of Sedalia, Missouri, who is chief clerk for the superintendent of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad. In all that constitutes true manhood and good citizenship, Mr. McGary is a worthy example, and none stands higher than he in the esteem and confidence of the circles in which he has moved.

## WILLIAM B. BINGHAM.

To a great extent the prosperity of the agricultural sections of our country is due to the honest industry, the sturdy persistence, the unswerving perseverance and the wise economy which so prominently characterize the farming element of the Hoosier state. Among this class may be mentioned the subject of this life record, who, by reason of years of indefatigable labor and honest effort, has not only acquired a well merited material prosperity, but has also richly earned the highest esteem of all with whom he is associated.

William B. Bingham was born in Patoka, Gibson county, Indiana, on March 20, 1864, the son of Gordon Byron and Minerva (Stockwell) Bingham, the former a native of Baltimore, Maryland, and the latter of Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana. Gordon B. Bingham, Sr., was the son of a Gordon Bingham, also, who was a successful merchant in Baltimore, Maryland. During the Civil war period, the subject's father played an important part in caring for the business interests of the family at home, and eventually became the owner of extensive mercantile interests, comprising a store, flour mill, packing house, distillery, etc., and was very successful in the management of these enterprises. His death occurred in 1876 and that of his wife in 1907. Of the eight children born to these parents, but four are now living: W. B.; G. B., of Patoka; Mrs. W. P. Casey, of Patoka; and Mrs. S. G. Ingle, of San Diego, California. The city of Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, was named in honor of the Prince family, to which the subject's maternal grandmother belonged. The family has been prominent and active for many years in various business interests, its various members having attained high reputations for probity of character, sound business judgment and progressive dispositions. William B. Bingham attended the public schools of Patoka, and also spent three years in the Evansville high school, thus receiving a good practical education. In 1883 he entered upon the active fields of life upon his own account as a farmer in the White River bottom in which he had immediate success and to which he has devoted his attention continuously since. He is associated in this enterprise with his brother, Gordon B., as well as in the grain business at Patoka, his brother having charge of the latter end of the business. By persevering efforts, persistent industry and sound business judgment in the handling of their affairs they have realized large returns in both lines of their business and today they are numbered among the enterprising and substantial citizens of Patoka.

W. B. Bingham has been twice married, first, in 1886 to Jennie Hewlett, the niece of Dr. John F. Howard, well known in this locality. Her death occurred on December 3, 1889, and in 1892 Mr. Bingham married Laura Hewlett, the daughter of John W. Hewlett and a sister of his first wife. To this union have been born four children: Jennie, Minerva, Bernice and William B., Jr.

Politically, Mr. Bingham has long been a supporter of the Republican party, and is a man of great public spirit, and takes a deep interest in everything which promises to benefit the community and his fellowmen in any way. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. In all the relations of life Mr. Bingham has commanded the confidence and respect of those with whom he has been brought into contact and a biographical history of his locality would not be complete without a record of his career.

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#### H. A. MILBURN.

It is with a large degree of satisfaction that the biographer takes up the life history of the gentleman whose name forms the caption of this article, a man widely known as one of the honored citizens of Gibson county, and who, though a comparatively young man, has already become prominently identified with the varied interests of his community. His well-directed efforts in the practical affairs of life, his capable management of his business interests and his sound judgment have brought to him prosperity, and his life demonstrates what may be accomplished by the man of energy and ambition, who is not afraid to work. In all the relations of life he has commanded the respect and confidence of all with whom he has been brought in contact, and the history of Gibson county would be incomplete without a record of his career.

Herbert A. Milburn, for many years a prominent citizen and successful business man of Patoka, Gibson county, Indiana, and the postmaster of that thriving town, was born on November 23, 1872, the son of Edgar and Margaret L. (Sellers) Milburn. He is descended from a long line of sterling ancestors, the family having been residents in the state of Virginia for many years. His paternal great-grandfather came from the old Dominion state to Indiana, establishing a splendid homestead east of Patoka, Gibson county. Here the subject's grandfather, Felix Milburn, was born and reared and later married Margaret Brazelton, also a native of Gibson county. Among their children was Edgar Milburn, who, on attaining mature years, engaged in mer-

cantile business at Hazleton, which he conducted successfully for several years, and also was connected with Bingham's distillery in Patoka. His death occurred on April 24, 1875, when the subject of this sketch was but two years old, and he was survived many years by his widow, whose death occurred on December 13, 1909. They were the parents of six children, namely: Electa, who became the wife of Alonzo Hinkle, who is now deceased; Clarence, a druggist of Patoka; Blanche, the wife of Robert A. Dixon, of West Summerville, Massachusetts; Felix O., a druggist of Patoka; Edgar E., one of the proprietors of the *Sun* of Springfield, Ohio, and Herbert A., the immediate subject of this sketch. The mother of these children, who was left a widow when all of the children were young in years, courageously took up the burden thus thrown upon her shoulders, and by teaching school managed to support her family and give all her children good practical education. She was a good woman in the best sense of the term, consecrated to her children, and of her the subject of this sketch says that all he is and hopes to be is due entirely to his mother's help and influence. She was a refined, cultured woman of noble aims and ideals, and instilled in her children those principles calculated to develop in them upright manhood and womanhood. Her father, Preston Sellers, was for many years a well-known lawyer of Georgetown and Ripley, Ohio.

Herbert A. Milburn received his education in the Patoka public schools and was a student in Indiana State Normal School at Terre Haute, and of the Danville Central Normal College. He then followed teaching as a vocation for fifteen years, six years of which time he was assistant principal of the Patoka schools, and three years in the Francisco schools, being principal during one year of the time. He was elected principal for another year, but resigned in order to enter the drug business at Patoka, with which he was connected for two years. He then engaged in the general merchandise business at Patoka, which commanded his attention for five years, at the end of which time, in October, 1912, he sold his interest. In 1907 Mr. Milburn was appointed postmaster of Patoka, and is still the efficient incumbent of that office, discharging his official duties to the entire satisfaction of both his departmental superiors and the patrons of the office. Though starting in the world practically unaided, Mr. Milburn has, by the exercise of good judgment and wise economy, been enabled to accumulate a fair amount of this world's goods, including some valuable real estate, his residence property, the store building in which he formerly conducted business, several vacant lots, a livery stable in Patoka, and some valuable property in Princeton. He is

numbered among the solid and substantial men of his community, and has borne his full part of the burden of carrying on the civic affairs of Patoka, giving his support at all times to such movements as promised to be of benefit to the community. He is a symmetrically developed man, discharging the duties of citizenship with an eye to the greatest good, and his popularity is only bounded by the lines within which he is known. Faithful to every trust reposed in him, the future may have for him other positions than that he now so capably holds.

On December 31, 1902, Herbert A. Milburn married Julia McConnell, the daughter of Alexander McConnell, of near Francisco.

Politically, Mr. Milburn is an ardent supporter of the Republican party, in the ranks of which organization he has been an active worker for many years. Fraternally, he is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons, the Order of the Eastern Star and the Modern Woodmen of America, while his religious connections are with the Presbyterian church, in the prosperity of which he is actively interested.

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#### WILLIAM P. CASEY.

To present in detail the leading facts in the life of one of Patoka's busy men of affairs and throw light upon some of his more prominent characteristics, is the task in hand in order to place before the reader the following brief biography of William P. Casey. Though still in the prime of vigorous manhood, he has already won a distinguished place in the business world, besides impressing his strong personality upon the community where for a number of years he has been a forceful factor in directing thought and molding opinion.

William P. Casey was born in Patoka, Gibson county, Indiana, on February 5, 1861, and has spent practically his entire life in this immediate locality. His parents were William J. and Charlotte M. (Park) Casey, the former a native of Posey county, Indiana, and the latter born in New York state. William J. Casey became a merchant in Patoka, where for many years he successfully conducted business affairs and also served very efficiently as auditor of Gibson county, being one of the few Democrats who has served in that office up to the time of his term, which was about 1876. He was re-elected for a second term, but died before entering upon the term. He came to Gibson county in young manhood, locating in Patoka, and resided there

continuously up to the time of his death, which occurred in February, 1878 or 1879. His widow is still living and resides in Princeton. They were the parents of four children, namely: Howard B., who died at the age of four years; Emma, who died at the age of twelve years; William P., the subject of this sketch; and Luella, the wife of L. C. Embree, an attorney at Princeton.

William P. Casey attended the public schools of Patoka, and was later, during 1878-1879, a student in old Asbury College, now DePauw University, at Greencastle. After entering life's battle on his own account, he was employed in various ways until, by rigid economy and persevering industry, he got a start and finally became a clerk for T. H. Jerauld, in whose store he was employed for two years. Having ambition higher than that of a clerical capacity, Mr. Casey began reading law in the office of L. C. Embree, of Princeton, but a year later he was compelled to give up his studies. During the following year he was employed in a shoe store in Indianapolis, but returned to Patoka and formed a partnership with Frank Parrett in 1883, buying the stock of Mr. Jerauld, who had died, and he has been engaged in business consecutively since, and has met with eminent success in the enterprise. About two years after starting he bought his partner's interest, and has since conducted the business on his own account. Sagacious and far-seeing in his business affairs, Mr. Casey has been enabled to build up a large and profitable trade throughout this community and is numbered among the solid men of his locality.

On September 3, 1889, William P. Casey was married to Mary S. Bingham, the daughter of G. B. and Minerva Bingham, of Patoka, and to this union there have been born three children, namely: William Bingham Casey, of Patoka, a commercial traveler; Lucile Marie and Helen Agnes.

Fraternally, Mr. Casey is actively identified with the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Tribe of Ben-Hur, in the work of which he takes a deep interest. Politically, he has been an active exponent of Democratic principles, and in the ranks of his party he has given efficient service. In 1898 he was nominated for the position of county auditor, and together with the rest of his ticket went down to defeat. Standing distinctively forward as one of the representative men and progressive citizens of Patoka, Mr. Casey owes his pronounced success in life almost wholly to his own efforts, and is freely entitled to the appellation "A self-made man." His life's story contains little outside of the ordinary, and his every act has been open to the scrutiny and criticism of his fellowmen, but few, if any, of whom have found anything to condemn.

*Reminder*  
A. D. MCCLURE.

The career of the well-remembered gentleman whose name forms the caption of this paragraph, was a strenuous and varied one, entitling him to honorable mention among the citizens of his day and generation in the county in which his life was so closely identified. Although his life has been brought to a close by the inevitable fate that awaits all mankind, his influence still pervades the lives of a wide circle of friends and acquaintances who revere his memory. As a business man or private citizen, he was always true to himself and his fellowmen and the tongue of calumny never touched him. As a soldier he proved his loyalty to the government he loved so well and the long and tiresome marches in all times and situations, on the tented field, and in the line of battle, where the rattle of the musketry, mingled with the terrible concussion of the bursting shell and the deep diapason of the cannon's roar made up the sublime but awful chorus of death. To such as he the country is under a debt of gratitude which it cannot repay and future generations will commemorate their chivalry in story and in song.

A. D. McClure was born on December 22, 1837, near Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, and was the son of Joseph P. and Catharine N. (Devin) McClure, the father of Scotch descent and the mother a native of the state of Indiana. A. D. McClure passed the major portion of his life in his native state and most of it in Gibson county, the exceptions being three years' residence in Kentucky and a short time in Vincennes. He received a good, practical school education in the public schools of that locality, and as soon as he was old enough, took upon himself the battle of life, in the course of which his efforts were rewarded by a well-merited competency. At the outbreak of the Southern insurrection, Mr. McClure gave practical evidence of his patriotism by enlisting as a private in Company H, Seventeenth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, which was a part of the famous Wilder's brigade, and which served throughout the war, taking part in many of the most important engagements and campaigns of that conflict. During a part of his war service, Mr. McClure served as a special scout for General Wilder. Upon return to peaceful pursuits, Mr. McClure engaged in various enterprises, and for about twenty-four years he operated the old mill at Patoka which had been established many years before, and which was one of the best known and most popular mills in this section of the state. Mr. McClure gave close attention to every detail of his business, and owing to his accommodating disposition and his attention to the wants of his patrons, he enjoyed a large



and profitable patronage for many years. His death occurred on March 6, 1907. His chief characteristics seemed to be keenness of perception, a tireless energy, honesty of purpose and every-day common sense. He was successful in business, respected in social life, and as a neighbor discharged his duties in a manner becoming a liberal-minded, intelligent citizen of the state where the essential qualities of his manhood were duly recognized and prized at their true value. To write a detailed and full account of his long and useful life would require a much more elaborate article than the nature of this work permits or requires. Sufficient to say, however, that in his record there was much that was commendable and his character forcibly illustrated what a life of energy can accomplish when plans are wisely laid and actions are governed by right principles, noble aims and high ideals. His death removed from Gibson county one of her most substantial and highly esteemed citizens and the many beautiful tributes to his high standing in the world of affairs and as a man and citizen attested to the abiding place he had in the heart and affections of a host of friends.

Mr. McClure was twice married, first, on October 19, 1865, to Sarah N. Green, the daughter of Hiram Green, and to this union were born two daughters, Katherine Louise (deceased), and Mary Ellen, who is still living. Mrs. Sarah McClure died on August 28, 1871, and on November 18, 1877, Mr. McClure married Maria C. Weber, who was born in Salzwedel, Germany, the daughter of Henry and Sophia Weber. She came to America when about eighteen years of age. Henry Weber was also a member of the Seventeenth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, which formed part of Wilder's brigade, and rose to the rank of sergeant. His death occurred in Gibson county on April 5, 1898, at the age of seventy-two years. To this second union were born five children, namely: Nora Charlotte (deceased); Clara S., the wife of Julian Palmer, of Patoka; Ella D. (deceased); and Allie H., a twin of Ella, who is now the widow of Clarence J. Barker, of Fort Branch, Gibson county; Ada Ann is the wife of Byron Bingham, of Patoka. Clarence J. Barker, who was depot agent at Fort Branch, died on August 18, 1913, being stricken with uremic poisoning in the railroad station at Kansas City, while en route home from New Mexico after a residence of three years in the latter state. He and his wife had two children, John Alexander and Alma Fay.

Mr. McClure was an enthusiastic Mason, having attained to the degree of the York rite, including the order of Knights Templar, being a member of the commandery at Vincennes; Mr. Barker was a member of the order at Sul-



livan, Indiana. Religiously, Mr. McClure was a member of the Baptist church, and having a high conception of his privileges and responsibilities as a Christian, he supported this church to the extent of his means. A man of congenial and kindly impulses, he made friends of all with whom he came in contact, and was widely known throughout Gibson county as one of her representative citizens. Mrs. McClure was a member of the same church at Evansville, and her parents were also members of this church.

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### WILLIAM ARMSTRONG WATERS.

Indiana will soon round out one hundred years of its history. It is the record of the steady growth of a community planted in the wilderness in the last century and reaching its magnitude of today without other aid than that of continued industry. Each county has had its share in the story and every county can lay claim to some incident or transaction which goes to make the history of the commonwealth. After all, the history of a state is but a record of the doings of its people, among whom the pioneers and their sturdy descendants occupy places of no secondary importance. The story of the plain common people who constitute the moral bone and sinew of the state will always attract the attention and prove of interest to all true lovers of their kind. The first settlers of this state were in the southern part and the hardships and disadvantages which surrounded them at every turn have long since disappeared with the march of civilization. The subject of this sketch, now deceased several years, is one of the finest examples of the sturdy pioneer and frontiersman who came to this state in the years when Indians were rampant in our forests; when every swamp was full of malaria; when transportation had to be carried on by water, or else by the trails which led through the woods. William Armstrong Waters not only fought the fight of the farmer in subduing the Indians and the forest, but also served his country in that long struggle which was necessary to preserve our union in the sixties.

William Armstrong Waters, the son of James R. and Nancy (Armstrong) Waters, was born in 1813, west of Owensville, in Gibson county, Indiana. His parents came from North Carolina to Christian county, Kentucky, and from thence they moved, in 1807, to what was then Knox county, Indiana. At that time Gibson county was not organized, and the land which they entered upon their arrival was later a part of that county when it was organized, March 9, 1813. James R. Waters, the father of the subject, was a

son of Thomas Waters, a native of Virginia, who went to North Carolina, where James R. was born. Thomas Waters later moved to Kentucky and in 1807 he and James R., then a young man, came to Gibson county, Indiana. Thomas Waters entered land from the government in section 4, township 3 south, range 12 west. He was not able to get his patent from the government until November 10, 1811. Starting here in the primeval forest several years before Indiana became a state, he fought the forests by day, the Indians by night and the malaria all the time. His closest market was Vincennes and this could be reached only by an old Indian trail. On this farm, entered in 1807, Thomas R. Waters lived and died at a ripe old age, having succeeded by his native honesty and sound business judgment to the acquisition of a comfortable competence. James R. Waters entered land in section 34, township 2 south, range 12 west. His brother, William, entered the other part of the same quarter section, but later James bought his part of this land. James R., father of the subject of this sketch, married Nancy Armstrong, a native of North Carolina. In 1809 she came with her parents, John and Polly (Swayne) Armstrong, from North Carolina to Kentucky, and later to Vanderburg county, Indiana. James R. Waters lived and died on the land which he entered.

William A. Waters, whose history is here presented, was born on his father's farm and there grew up to manhood. Early in life he was married to Eliza Jones, daughter of Charles and Eleanor (Warrick) Jones. Her mother was a daughter of Capt. Jacob Warrick, one of the heroes of the battle of Tippecanoe, and after whom Warrick county was named. Her father, Charles Jones, came from North Carolina to Christian county, Kentucky, and from thence, by way of Henderson, Kentucky, then called Red Banks, to Gibson county, Indiana, in company with James R. Waters, who had gone back to Christian county, Kentucky, to collect money due him. William A. Waters bought a farm in 1825, where his children still live. It is a quarter of section 3, township 3, range 12 west, located west of Owensville, and here he lived all his life with the exception of the time when he was serving in the Civil war.

William A. Waters and his son, James, both enlisted in Company E, Forty-second Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and followed the campaign from Chattanooga in the summer of 1863 through to Atlanta and then followed Sherman on his famous march to the sea. From thence they went up through the Carolinas to Virginia and were in the Grand Review at Washington in the summer of 1865. William A. Waters was mustered out as a lieutenant after serving seven months, resigning on account of ill health.

The brother continued on through to the close of the war. During his two years' service in the army James R. was constantly at the front and fought in all the battles from Chattanooga down through Georgia and up through the Carolinas until the surrender of Johnson in North Carolina in April, 1865. Although the son saw so much of hard military service, he was never wounded and came out of the conflict in good health.

William A. Waters returned to the farm at the close of his service, and by successful business management he succeeded in acquiring a very comfortable competence. He continued active operations on the farm until his death, which occurred on August 6, 1886, his widow surviving him many years, her death occurring on February 3, 1901, at the advanced age of eighty-one. Their union was blessed with eleven children, eight of whom grew to maturity and five of whom are still living together on the old home farm, Charles C., James B., John F., Ellen and Martha. Charles C. Waters enlisted to fight in the Civil war, but when he went to be mustered into the service, it was found that his company was full, so he was sent back home. All of these five children own farms of their own, their total acreage aggregating nearly nine hundred acres, all of which is located in Montgomery township. None of them have ever married, preferring to keep unchanged the tie of home and family which bound them together as children on the old homestead. Here they live an unostentatious, hospitable life, doing all the good that they can for the community in which they live. No family is held in higher esteem in this county than the Waters family and no movement which has for its end the betterment of the community is ever launched which does not find in them ready and sympathetic helpers. They have always displayed that consistent Christian spirit, that genuine worth that has endeared them to all classes, and their lives have been an inspiration to others.

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#### WARRICK D. JOHNSON.

It is the progressive, wide-awake man of affairs who makes the real history of a community and his influence as a potential factor of the body politic is difficult to estimate. The examples such men furnish of painstaking effort and steadfast integrity strongly illustrate what is in the power of each to accomplish, and there is always a full measure of satisfaction in adverting even in a casual way to their achievements in advancing the interests of their fellowmen and in giving strength and solidity to the institutions which

make so much for the prosperity of the community. In placing the history of the influential citizen of Gibson county, Indiana, whose name forms the caption of this review, it is plainly seen that the respect and esteem which he enjoys has been won by his commendable qualities, and it is also his personal worth that has won for him the highest regard of all who know him.

Warrick D. Johnson, son of Levi and Louisa (Smith) Johnson, was born on February 1, 1865, one and one-half miles east of Johnson Station. Levi Johnson was born about half way between Poseyville and Cynthiana, in 1824, the son of George and Anna (Williams) Johnson. George Johnson came to Indiana with his parents, Arthur and Lucy (Harmon) Johnson, from North Carolina in the early history of the state. George Johnson was married in this county, and after his marriage he lived in Cynthiana until after his first wife died, when he married Mary Mason, and continued to reside near Cynthiana until his death. Levi Johnson lived under the parental roof until he was old enough to work out, and then he worked at farm labor for several years in the Maumee bottoms west of Johnson Station. On October 21, 1848, he was married to Louisa Smith, who was born about two miles west of Owensville, June 12, 1829, and is a daughter of Dr. John Willis and Martha (Warrick) Smith. Her father was born at Danville, Kentucky, about 1800. He studied medicine at Louisville and came to Gibson county, Indiana, in the early days of the state, buying land west of Owensville and becoming quite an extensive land owner in this county. He was among the first physicians in this part of the country, and his practice extended from Princeton to New Harmony and Evansville. He was married to Martha Crockett Warrick, who was born June 3, 1809, about two and one-half miles southwest of Owensville. She was a daughter of Captain Jacob Warrick, a hero of Tippecanoe. Doctor Smith was said to be two generations in advance of his time, and was one of the foremost physicians of that section of the state. He was educated at Danville, Kentucky, well versed not only in medicine, but in the literature of his day, and was a very interesting conversationalist. It was said that upon his death the whole township was in tears. His death occurred August 17, 1835, and some years after his death his widow married Jacob Paden.

After Levi Johnson married he built a log cabin in the woods two miles west of Owensville on land where his widow still lives, and there he spent the remainder of his days. He taught school for several years before his marriage, and served as trustee of the township when a young man and was elected again in later years.

As a farmer he was very successful and gradually added to his land holdings until he was one of the largest land owners in the township. To Mr. and Mrs. Levi Johnson were born six children: John Willis, deceased; George Washington, who lives west of Owensville; Martha, who is living with her mother; Emma, the widow of John Doss Thompson, lives in Owensville; David Warrick lives two miles west of Owensville; Laura Ella died in childhood. Levi Johnson was an active Republican all his life and took a prominent part in the councils of his party. He was also a very active member of the General Baptist church, and for years was a deacon in that denomination. His death occurred on November 26, 1904.

Warrick D., son of Levi Johnson, was reared on the homestead farm, following the ordinary life of the average country boy, going to school in the winter seasons and working on his father's farm in the summers. After finishing the schools of his county, he became a student at the State Normal at Terre Haute for four terms, at the expiration of which time he engaged in teaching, followed this occupation for five years in Montgomery township, and was teaching at the time of his marriage.

In 1887 Mr. Johnson was married to Phena Boren, the daughter of Samuel and Serelda (Marvel) Boren. She was born about four miles south of their present home and lived there until her marriage. Her family genealogy is set forth in sketch of T. J. Boren, elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are the parents of five children: Mata, the wife of Harvey Witherspoon, lives south of Owensville, in Union township; Warren Boren married Violet V. Benson, the daughter of Columbus and Laura (Thompson) Benson, on February 3, 1914, and is on the farm with his father; he runs a grain elevator at Johnson Station; Warner Lee and George Washington, Jr., are in the high school at Owensville; Ella Marie is in the common school at Owensville.

After his marriage Mr. Johnson engaged in the operation of the farm where he is now living, and gradually built up his farming interests by buying more land until he is now the owner of over three hundred acres of as fine land as there is in the county. In 1913 he built a handsome residence, equipped with all the modern improvements and one of the most beautiful country homes in the township. He owns the land on which Johnson Station is built, a town which was platted and opened for the sale of lots in 1911. He and his son, Warren, are engaged in grain buying and selling business, shipping their grain from Johnson Station. He has been very successful in his business affairs, owing to the fact that he has exercised sturdy persistence,

stern integrity and excellent judgment, qualities which have won for him the confidence and esteem of the public to a marked degree.

He is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons and also of the Modern Woodmen of America. Politically, he has affiliated with the Republican party, and has been an active worker in its behalf. He has never been a seeker after political honor, but has been content to devote his time and energy to his increasing business affairs. A study of his career shows what patient purpose and steadfast integrity will accomplish, and there is a full measure of satisfaction in recording the life history of such valuable citizens. They give strength and solidity to all the institutions and movements which have for their object the welfare of the community. He possesses in a marked degree those sterling traits of character which have commanded uniform confidence and regard, and for this reason he is today honored by all who know him and is numbered among the representative men of his county.

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#### GEORGE C. MASON, M. D.

The man who devotes his talents and energies to the noble work of ministering to the ills and alleviating the sufferings of humanity is pursuing a calling which in dignity, importance and beneficial results is second to no other. If true to his profession and earnest in his efforts to enlarge his sphere of usefulness, he is indeed a benefactor of his kind, for to him more than to any other man are entrusted the safety, the comfort and, in many instances, the lives of those who place themselves under his care and profit by his services. It is gratifying to note in the series of personal sketches appearing in this work that there remain identified with the professional, public and civic affairs of Gibson county many who are native sons of the county and who are ably maintaining the prestige of honored names. Of this number, Dr. George C. Mason, who is prominent among the physicians and surgeons and who is practicing his profession at Oakland City, is one of the representative men of the county. He stands in the front rank of Gibson county's professional men, having been engaged in his calling here for many years, during which time he has not only gained wide professional notoriety, but also established a sound reputation for uprightness of character in all the relations of life.

George C. Mason was born in Barton township, Gibson county, Indiana,



*G. C. Mason.*





on January 24, 1848, and is descended from one of the sterling old pioneer families of Gibson county. His grandfather, Rezin Mason, who founded the family in Virginia, was of Scotch birth, and a relative of the distinguished divine, Dr. John Mason. His son, Rezin Mason, Jr., father of the subject of this sketch, was born near Winchester, Virginia, in 1818, and came to Indiana with his mother and three sisters in 1836, and located in Gibson county. He married Elizabeth Jane Martin, the daughter of John and Jane (Steele) Martin, and to this union were born ten children, of whom George C., the subject of this sketch, was the first born. The latter was reared on his father's farm in Barton township, securing his education in the neighboring schools, and, being of a studious disposition, at the age of fifteen years he had acquired a good knowledge of the fundamental branches. However, his father's death at this time threw upon him the care of the family, which responsibility he accepted with heroic courage, devoting himself to the support of his mother and brothers and sisters until some of the latter were old enough to relieve him of a part of the burden. During this period he did not cease his efforts to gain a further education and, although confronted with many obstacles that would have discouraged one of less heroic mold, he continued his efforts in this direction and through his persistent efforts he became a well-educated and symmetrically developed man. Fortunately for this farmer boy there was in the neighborhood a Presbyterian clergyman, Rev. Robert Gray, a graduate of Oberlin College, Ohio, and a man of superior college attainments, to whom young Mason went for directions in his advanced studies and to whom he recited. In this way he equipped himself for teaching in the common schools of his county and also prepared himself for college, entering the classical course in the State University, where he spent two years. During the following eight years he engaged in teaching in the public schools, and during a portion of this time he was associated with Prof. Lee Tomlin, in the Oakland City Normal School. He also served efficiently as superintendent of the public schools of Fort Branch and Hazleton. However, the pedagogical profession did not satisfy the young man's ambition, and in January, 1876, George Mason determined to engage in the medical profession as a life work, and to this end began his technical studies in Miami Medical College of Cincinnati, and later in the Medical College of Indiana at Indianapolis, where he was graduated in 1879. Subsequently he supplemented this professional work by studies in Eastern colleges and, thus thoroughly prepared for his life work, Doctor Mason came to Oakland City and entered upon the active prac-

tice of his profession, his efforts being rewarded by a large clientele. In his chosen field of endeavor, Doctor Mason has achieved success such as few attain, and his eminent standing among the leading medical men of southwestern Indiana has been duly recognized and appreciated not only in Oakland City, which has long been honored by his residence, but also throughout this section of the state. In addition to his long and creditable career in one of the most useful and exacting of professions, he has also proved an honorable member of the body politic, rising in the confidence and esteem of the public, and in every relation of life never falling below the dignity of true manhood, nor in any way resorting to methods that have invited criticism. As a citizen, he has ranked with the most influential of his compeers in affairs looking toward the betterment of his chosen city and county. His character has ever been above suspicion, and those who have been favored with an intimate acquaintance with him are profuse in their praise of his many virtues and upright character, that of a true gentleman.

Doctor Mason has long been a close student of political history, being an extensive reader, and he takes a profound interest in educational affairs, including in his linguistic attainments Latin, Greek and German, all of which he reads with equal facility. Doctor Mason is a Republican in his political views, and in 1880 was elected a representative to the Legislature by a majority of two hundred and twelve votes, being the first Republican elected in Gibson county in sixteen years. During the ensuing session of the Legislature, the Doctor had the satisfaction of voting for Benjamin Harrison for United States senator, and earnestly advocated measures which resulted in the improvement of public roads. Doctor Mason served fourteen years consecutively as president of the Oakland City school board, in which he rendered valuable service in the advancement of local educational affairs. On July 15, 1897, Doctor Mason became superintendent of the Southern Indiana Hospital for the Insane, serving efficiently in this position for three years. He is a member of the Gibson County Medical Society and the State Medical Society, taking a deep interest in the proceedings of these bodies. His religious affiliation is with the Presbyterian church, in which he is an elder. He has been very successful in material affairs, owning a splendid apple orchard of fifty acres near Somerville, this county, in the handling of which he has been very successful.

On July 17, 1873, at Princeton, Doctor Mason was married to Elizabeth L. Henderson, who was born in Guernsey county, Ohio, the daughter of Thomas W. and Jane (Gray) Henderson, and to this union have been born

four children, two of whom are living, namely: Gertrude S., who is the wife of Robert W. Hunter, who is engaged in the lumber business at Providence, Kentucky; Grace L., born July 17, 1881, and died January 23, 1887; George C., born September 15, 1884, and died April 4, 1885; Russell L. is a graduate of Wabash College, and lives in Oakland City, being a clerk in the Why clothing store.

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### G. B. BINGHAM.

Among the earnest men whose enterprise and depth of character have gained for them a prominent place in the community and the respect and confidence of their fellow citizens is the honored subject of this sketch. A leading farmer and grain man of the locality in which he resides and a man of decided views and laudable ambitions, his influence has ever been exerted for the advancement of his kind, and in the vocations to which his energies are devoted he ranks among the representative men of the county.

G. B. Bingham was born in Patoka, Gibson county, Indiana, on April 6, 1866, and is a son of Gordon Byron and Minerva (Stockwell) Bingham, the father a native of Baltimore, Maryland, and the mother of Princeton, this county. Gordon B. Bingham came to Gibson county in young manhood, locating in Princeton. His father, Gordon B. Bingham, had been a well-to-do merchant in Baltimore, Maryland, and his son, the subject's father, acquired large interests of different kinds, including store, flour mill, packing house, distillery, etc. He was successful in the management of these enterprises, and was numbered among the substantial and influential business men of the community. During the Civil war, the responsibility of looking after the affairs at home fell upon his shoulders, and he managed the business interests of the family in such a way as to earn the commendation of his father. Two of his brothers were in active service in the war, Captain Sylvester, in the Northern army, and John, in the Southern army. His death occurred in 1876. He was survived many years by his widow, who died on April 13, 1907. To them were born eight children, of whom four are living, namely: W. B. Bingham, G. B. Bingham, Mrs. W. P. Casey, of Patoka, and Mrs. S. G. Ingle, of San Diego, California. The subject's maternal grandmother bore the family name of Prince, and after her family the city of Princeton, Gibson county, was named.

G. B. Bingham received his education in the public schools of Patoka,

and then engaged in the grain business and farming in partnership with his brother, the subject looking after the grain business. He has been eminently successful in this enterprise, and for many years has been numbered among the progressive and enterprising business men of Patoka. He retains his farming interests, which he has found to be a profitable investment, and gives his personal attention to every detail of his business affairs, being wide awake and following up-to-date methods in the conduct of his business.

In February, 1907, Mr. Bingham married Ada McClure, the daughter of the late A. D. McClure, of Patoka, and to them has been born one child, Mary Agnes. Politically, Mr. Bingham has been a life-long Republican, and has served as a member of the Patoka town council. He takes an intelligent interest in all affairs looking to the welfare of the community, giving his support to those measures which tend to elevate and improve local conditions. His chief characteristics are keenness of perception, tireless energy, honesty of purpose and motive and every-day common sense, which have enabled him not only to advance his own interest, but also largely to contribute to the moral and material advancement of the community.

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#### GEORGE M. WATT.

It is the progressive, wide-awake man of affairs who makes the real history of a community and his influence as a potential factor of the body politic is difficult to estimate. The examples such men furnish of patient purpose and steadfast integrity strongly illustrate what is in the power of each to accomplish, and there is always a full measure of satisfaction in adverting even in a casual way to their achievements in advancing the interests of their fellowmen and in giving strength and solidity to the institutions which make so much for the prosperity of a community. Such a man is the worthy subject of this sketch, and as such it is proper that a review of his career be accorded a place among the representative citizens of the city and county in which he resides.

George M. Watt, proprietor of one of the largest mercantile houses of Oakland City, and one of the sterling citizens of this community, was born on June 22, 1859, near Xenia, Greene county, Ohio. His parents were Hugh and Margaret (Murray) Watt, the father a native of Erie county, Pennsylvania, the latter of Glasgow, Scotland. Hugh Watt followed farming and

brick making, being successful in these dual occupations, and in 1864 came to Gibson county, Indiana, where he located on a farm south of Oakland City, on which he lived until his death, which occurred in the fall of 1880, at the age of seventy-four years. A man of sterling qualities of character, he enjoyed to a marked degree the confidence of the community, and was a prominent and influential member of the United Presbyterian church. His widow survived him many years, dying in 1901, at the age of sixty-four years. She had come to America with her parents when but eleven years of age, locating in Greene county, Ohio. To Hugh and Margaret Watt were born seven children, namely: R. G., of Princeton, Indiana; Laura, deceased, who was the wife of Oliver Hammonds, of Petersburg, Indiana; Mattie, deceased; George; Stella, the wife of James Tomlin, superintendent of the Evansville public schools; Lydia, the wife of J. M. Black, a music teacher in Spokane, Washington; and W. R., of Washington, Indiana.

George M. Watt attended the schools of Gibson county, being but four years of age when his parents removed to that county from Ohio. He remained with his parents, assisting with the work of the farm until he was twenty-one years of age, when he and his brother bought a farm near Oakland City, where he lived during the following sixteen years, giving his undivided attention to its operation. He then entered into partnership in the undertaking business with Porter Lamb, which lasted for eight years, and in 1910 he formed a partnership with J. N. Jackson and engaged in the hardware and agricultural implement business, which still demands his attention. They carry a complete line of shelf and heavy hardware, as well as a full line of agricultural implements and enjoy a full share of the public's patronage.

Politically, Mr. Watt is a Republican, and has served two terms as a member of the city council. During this period he was an earnest supporter of the movement and largely responsible for the securing of the water works in Oakland City, though this was accomplished in the face of hard opposition. Religiously, he is a member of the Presbyterian church, to which he gives earnest support. He has been prosperous in his business affairs, and besides the mercantile interests in this city he is the owner of a good farm in Columbia township.

On November 26, 1891, Mr. Watt was married to Flora J. Crawford, who was born in Columbia township, Gibson county, Indiana, the daughter of John B. and Amanda Crawford, and to this union have been born two children, John M., now thirteen years of age, who is now attending school, and Ethel, who died at the age of one year. Mr. Watt has performed well his

duty in all the relations of life, and while advancing his own interests, has not been unmindful of the general welfare of his fellow citizens. Thus he rightly deserves a place in the history of his locality.

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### THOMAS J. BOREN.

That the plenitude of satiety is seldom attained in the affairs of life is to be considered a most beneficial deprivation, for where ambition is satisfied and every ultimate end realized, if such be possible, apathy must follow. Effort would cease, accomplishment be prostrate, and creative talent waste its energies in inactivity. The men who have pushed forward the wheels of progress have been those to whom satisfaction lies ever in the future, who have labored continuously, always finding in each transitional stage, an incentive for further effort. Mr. Boren is one whose well directed efforts have gained for him a position of desirable prominence in the agricultural circles of Gibson county, and his energy and enterprise have been crowned by a gratifying degree of success.

Thomas J. Boren is a native of Gibson county who has lived all his life within its bounds, and was born on August 23, 1849, near Antioch, in the southern part of Montgomery township, where he now resides. He is a son of Samuel and Zerelda (Marvel) Boren, Samuel Boren's birth-place being the same as that of his son. He was born in 1825, the son of John Doss and Jennima Boren, who were among the very earliest pioneers of the county, coming here when this whole county was almost virgin wilderness. They entered government land, which is now the old Boren homestead and on which the immediate subject of this sketch resides. There John Doss Boren and wife finished their days, and there their son Samuel grew to manhood, married Zerelda Marvel and there made his home on the same tract. Zerelda Marvel was also a native of Gibson county, born in what is now the west end of Union township, the daughter of Painter and Lydia Marvel. Samuel Boren and wife were the parents of seven children, two of whom died in infancy and another son, John Doss, died at the age of twenty-one years. The remaining four are still living, namely: Thomas J., the subject of this sketch; Mrs. Phena Johnson, of Gibson county; Mrs. Manesa Wasson, of Cynthiana, and Mrs. Lydia Redman of the same place. Mrs. Samuel Boren was a devoted member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church and reared

her family in strict accordance with the tenets of that faith. The Boren family has been prominent in the history of the county from earliest days. John Doss Boren was a man of wealth and influence and at one time the heaviest tax-payer in Montgomery township.

Thomas J. Boren grew to manhood on the same land obtained by his grandfather from the government and when about twenty years old he made his first business venture by purchasing a tract of about fifteen acres located near his home and having on it a neat little house and barn. He remained at home until in 1872, and at the age of twenty-three was united in marriage to Eliza Welborn, a sister of Judge O. M. Welborn, of Princeton. She was born in the vicinity of her present home. For two or more years after their marriage, Thomas J. Boren and wife lived on the place he had first purchased and in 1875 they moved to the old Welborn homestead, where they have since resided. It is a most beautiful country home with a large, park-like yard, dotted with great forest trees and beautiful shrubs, and a most hospitable home to enter.

Mr. Boren has always employed the most modern methods in his agricultural work and is thoroughly up-to-date in all he does. In addition to his general farming, he gives particular attention to registered Hereford stock and Poland China hogs. At one time he had quite a large herd of cattle, but now keeps only a few of the very best. For one year, 1898, Mr. Boren was on the road selling Deering farm implements. He was county superintendent of rock roads for four years, 1907 to 1911, and has given his time to other public services from time to time.

Mr. and Mrs. Boren have a family of three children. Ella May, who is the wife of Walter Bixby, lives in Evansville, Indiana, and has one son, Walter Thomas. Frank, who lives in Owensville, is in the insurance business and is also deputy state oil inspector. His wife was Minnie Pruitt and they have two small daughters, Alice and Martha. C. Fred Boren is located at Owensville, and for years has been superintendent of Montgomery township schools; he also deals in live stock. His wife was Belle Sumners and they have one son, Charles Frederick. Mr. Boren comes of a robust and long-lived family. His mother's grandmother Marvel died at his father's home during the Civil war at the age of one hundred and four years, and was able to read without glasses, her faculties being unimpaired, and she had sufficient strength to walk quite a distance.

Mr. Boren's fraternal affiliation is with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks at Princeton and the Tribe of Ben-Hur at Owensville. Re-



ligiously, both he and his wife are members of the General Baptist church and give earnest support to that society, both with time and means. Mr. Boren is one of those solid men of brains and substance, so essential to the material growth and prosperity of a community, and his influence has been willingly extended in behalf of every deserving enterprise that has for its object the advancement or welfare of his fellow-citizens. His estimable qualities of head and heart and the straight-forward, upright course of his daily life have won for him the esteem and confidence of the circles in which he has moved, and has given him a reputation for integrity and correct conduct such as should be coveted by every man.

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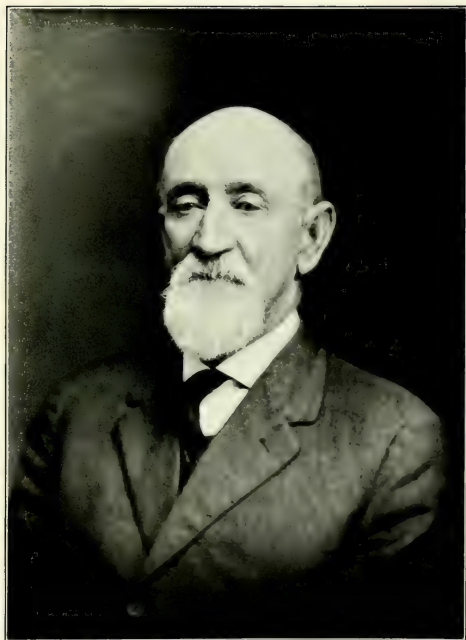
#### BARTLETT BENNETT HOLLIS.

It can not be other than gratifying to note that within the pages of this compilation will be found mention of many prominent and successful citizens of the county who have here passed their entire lives and who stand representatives of the sturdy pioneer element which instituted the Herculean task of reclaiming this section of the state from the wilderness, carrying the work valiantly forward and leaving it to their sons and daughters to rear the superstructure upon the foundations thus firmly laid. Those who have been the builders and founders of Gibson county are the ones who chiefly find place in this work, and in this number mention should not be omitted of the personal career of the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this article.

Bartlett Bennett Hollis was born April 7, 1843, two and a half miles south of Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, the son of Othniel Hollis, of near Milton, Guilford county, North Carolina. Othniel Hollis was born in 1808 and was a son of Jesse and Frances (Brown) Hollis, also natives of North Carolina, the mother being a sister of Brazel Brown, who kept the first hotel in Princeton.

Jesse Hollis and family came to Gibson county in 1825, in company with Hudson Brown, and lived the first year after their arrival in the Hoosier state on the Jonathan Young farm. They secured heavily timbered land two and one-half miles south of Princeton on the state road, and made their home here for the rest of their days. Jesse Hollis died in 1848 and his wife in 1853. They were the parents of the following children: Priscilla mar-





BARTLETT B. HOLLIS.



ried Samuel Hogue; Ella was twice married, first to a Mr. Estus and then to Hosey Holcomb; Mary is deceased; Othniel, the subject's father.

Othniel Hollis enjoyed a very limited schooling and on his marriage went to Evansville, Indiana, and engaged in the hotel business for two years, at the end of which period, his father dying, he returned to the old home place and bought out the other heirs, continuing to reside there for about thirty years, when he sold the property and moved to Princeton, where he died February 11, 1894, his wife having passed away in 1870. He was a member of the Regular Baptist church, a Whig, and later a Republican, and was well known and highly respected in his neighborhood. He married Micha Stewart, of Mason county, Kentucky, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Trekell) Stewart, natives of Virginia. Micha Stewart's parents removed from the Old Dominion to Maryland and later to Kentucky, in 1820 coming to Gibson county, and settling southeast of Haubstadt, where they secured land and made their home. They were the parents of ten children, namely: Charles, Greenbury, Warner, Luther, Stephen, John, George, Kerrila, who married William Thornton, Rachael, who married James Knowles, and Micha, the subject's mother.

Othniel and Micha Hollis were the parents of the following children: Frances married Robert J. Alexander and is now deceased; John is retired and living at Princeton; Sarah Ann died young; Ellen is the widow of Capt. J. R. Ashmead, of Terre Haute, Indiana; Bartlett B.; Cornella is living with the subject; Louisa died of typhoid fever in 1862; an infant daughter.

Bartlett Bennett Hollis, the subject of this review, secured a very limited education in the schools of his early days, he attending the Orr school. On August 12, 1862, Mr. Hollis enlisted in Company A, Eightieth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, at Princeton, and after being outfitted and drilled for a brief period at Indianapolis, the company was sent to Covington, Kentucky, and assigned to the Twenty-third Army Corps. The first captain of this company was named Simmonson and the second to take that position was Charles Brownlee, while the regiment in the course of the war was commanded by four different colonels, Denby, Brooks, Culbertson and Owen. After spending a short period in the hospital at Louisville on account of sickness, the subject joined his regiment at Crab Orchard, and on May 14, 1864, at the battle of Resaca, he was shot through the left shoulder, the bullet passing through his left lung and coming out under the shoulder blade. He was in the hospitals at Chattanooga, Nashville, Louisville and Evansville, and

was honorably discharged from his country's service February 14, 1865. Mrs. Hollis had three brothers in the Union army, namely: Irvin was in Company F, Thirty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry; Francis M. was a member of Company F, Thirty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and William fought in the ranks of the One Hundred and Forty-ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry.

On June 4, 1872, Mr. Hollis was united in the holy bonds of matrimony with Sarah Jane Polk, of Patoka township, Gibson county, the daughter of Clayborn and Rachael (Shoptaugh) Polk, who came from Hardin county, Kentucky, to this county in 1844, where the father engaged in farming and flour milling and became a prominent man. The parents of Mrs. Hollis had twelve children and those who reached maturity were: Irvin C. is living in Sanford, Florida; Isabelle is the widow of Robert Kendle, of Princeton, Indiana, and is mentioned more fully in another portion of this volume; Francis M. was a mill man in the South and West and died in Kansas; William A., who died in 1905, was a mill man at Fort Branch and had also engaged in the tile and mill business near Madisonville, Kentucky; Caleb Clark lives in Valparaiso, Indiana; Sarah Jane, Mrs. Hollis.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hollis have been born the following children: Heber Ernest is a miller at Emerson's mill at Vincennes, Indiana. He started to learn the milling business at the age of sixteen. He married Melissa Dame; Othniel (better known as "Ott") is a farmer and stock man at Patoka and married Forna Brown; Francis Allen married Effie Martin and is farming in Patoka township; Bartlett H. died at the age of five months; John Stewart married Jessie Binkley and is a farmer in Patoka township; Rachael is the wife of Herbert Thompson, an oil driller at Bartelsville, Oklahoma; Walter is farming at home; Charles Edwin married Maude Blum and is farming in Patoka township; Clarence V. is at home.

After his marriage Mr. Hollis lived on the Judge Robinson place for about a year, then at different places in Patoka township and in 1891 located on the present farm in Patoka township, the old Polk place, where he now has eighty acres of fine land, besides owning the eighty acres where his son resides. A general farming and stock raising business is carried on and a first-class modern agricultural plant developed.

Believing in the principles set forth in the platform of the Socialist party, Mr. Hollis has allied himself with this party. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic.

## ELI J. ROBB.

The true measure of individual success is determined by what one has accomplished. An enumeration of those men of a past generation who were successful in their life work and at the same time left the impress of their strong personalities upon the community, men who won honor and recognition for themselves, and at the same time conferred honor on the locality in which they resided, would be incomplete were there failure to make specific mention of the gentleman whose name initiates this paragraph, for although Eli J. Robb has long been sleeping the sleep of the just, his influence still pervades the lives of those who were so fortunate as to enjoy his acquaintance. His name is deeply engraved on the pages of Gibson county's history, for his life was a busy one, and he never allowed anything to interfere with his Christian obligations or the faithful performance of his church duties. His entire Christian life was a steady effort for the worth of the Christian doctrine, the purity and grandeur of Christian principle and the beauty and sublimity of Christian character. Pure, constant and noble was the spiritual flame that burned in and illumined the mortal tenement of the subject of this memoir, and to the superficial observer can come but small appreciation of his intrinsic spirituality, his faith being fortified by the deepest study, and the Christian verities were with him the matters of most concern among the changes and chances of this mortal life.

The late Eli J. Robb, the son of Eli and Nancy (Davis) Robb, was born in Montgomery township, Gibson county, Indiana, in May, 1830. His father, Eli Robb, was born August 7, 1797, the son of Thomas and Lydia (Waller) Robb. Thomas Robb was born August 10, 1769, and his wife was born February 21, 1777. Thomas Robb, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, came to this county with his family in a very early day, and settled in Montgomery township, on the farm now owned by Presley Robb. Here Eli, the father of Eli J., was reared, and upon his marriage to Nancy Davis he entered government land at Griffin, in Posey county. Later he moved to what is now known as the William Shelton farm in Montgomery township, this county, and on this farm the subject of this sketch first saw the light of day. Shortly before the birth of Eli J. Robb, his father died, and three years afterward his mother married Samuel Montgomery. They lived near Cynthiana and reared a large family of children. On reaching his majority, Eli J. Robb was married, October 8, 1851, to Zerelda Finch, a native of Vanderburg county, Indiana. She was a daughter of G. W. and Delilah

(Graves) Finch. Her father was a native of Kentucky and her mother of Virginia. G. W. Finch was one of the most prominent men in the southwestern part of Indiana. He was a very active Mason and in the early days of Indiana he helped in the organization of a number of lodges in this section and it is believed that he had the honor of helping to organize the first Masonic lodge in Indianapolis. He had a Masonic apron that was given his father by George Washington's wife, a white satin apron stamped by Martha Washington with the Masonic emblems. It was given him with the request that it go to the first of his sons who should become a Mason. This son was Senator G. W. Finch, and he left it to his oldest son, who was a Mason, and thus it has been handed down until it is now owned by G. W. Finch, Jr., of Carmi, Illinois. Senator Finch came to Indiana when Evansville was a mere village and was offered the town site for a little gold watch which he owned, but refused to make the deal. He was an active Democrat all his life and the great political debates which were the rage during his days were often held at his home. He served two terms as state senator from Vanderburg county. Among his friends was the late Robert Dale Owen, who was for several years a representative in Congress.

After his marriage Eli J. Robb and wife made their home on his farm in section 36, Montgomery township. Their marriage was blessed with two children, Hattie E., and Sarah Ann, who died at the early age of six months. On this farm Mr. and Mrs. Robb remained the rest of their days with the exception of three years, when they lived in Lincoln, Illinois, in order to give their only daughter, Hattie E., an education at Lincoln University, a Cumberland Presbyterian college. However, their daughter's health failed on account of her close application to her studies and they returned to their farm in this county, where they continued to reside until their death, Mrs. Robb's death occurring July 7, 1891, her husband surviving her twenty years, passing away on January 5, 1911.

Mr. Robb was an ardent Prohibitionist and attended the state conventions of his party for many years as a delegate. His counsels were sought by the leaders of that party, and he always occupied a very prominent place in the state and county conventions. Mr. Robb was noted throughout this locality for his generous hospitality, and his doors were always open to the poor and needy. Very frequently there were several orphan children being cared for in his home, or some unfortunate being aided by him, and no man ever lived in Gibson county who was more popular or well beloved by all classes than Eli J. Robb. Although not affiliated with any church as a mem-

ber, yet he was a regular attendant of church services and every church near him received some financial aid from him. It is said of him that not even a tramp was ever turned hungry from his door. It is not what we give, but what we share that renders our gifts valuable.

Hattie Elizabeth, the only daughter of Eli J. Robb, taught school two terms in Gibson county after leaving Lincoln University. While in Illinois, she became acquainted with her first husband, Professor P. L. Deardorff, a native of that state. They were married September 9, 1874, and until his death he followed the occupation of a teacher. He was superintendent of schools one year at Mechanicsburg, Illinois, two years at Graysville, that state, one year at Fort Branch, Gibson county, Indiana, and the last year of his life was superintendent of the city schools at Mattoon, Illinois. At the time of his examination for a teacher's certificate in Illinois, he passed the best examination which had ever been passed up to that time in Coles county, Illinois. He was a genuine scholar, a Latin student of great ability, and was also very active in church and Sunday school work and always strictly followed his motto, "Onward and Upward." Shortly after their marriage his health gave way and he went to Colorado to recuperate. On his return from Colorado to Illinois he stopped at Abilene, Kansas, at the home of Senator Burton, whose wife was a member of the Robb family, and here his death occurred July 27, 1879. Professor Deardorff was a very conscientious worker and while teaching he studied medicine, intending to follow that profession later on.

After the death of her husband, Mrs. Deardorff returned to the home of her parents in Gibson county, where she has since lived. She was again married December 26, 1895, to Edgar H. Bailey, but the marriage did not prove congenial and after about thirteen years it was thought best to bring their marital relations to an end. Since that time Mrs. Bailey has continued her residence on the old home place where she was born in May, 1853. Here she has lived a life of usefulness, which has endeared her to every one in the community. When her mother died, Mrs. Bailey promised her to do more for the poor than they had done and this meant much, for Mr. and Mrs. Robb had been probably the most charitable people in the whole township. Mrs. Bailey considers her promise to her mother as a duty laid upon her and, as she is able, not only gives money, but also that rare sympathy that means far more. She has been a power for good to all with whom she comes in contact, gives homes to the unfortunate and oppressed, and even has several of the unfortunates in her own home at times. Fortunately she is possessed with the means to carry out her charitable ideas and the good which she does

for this community has rendered her one of the best beloved women of the county. Her kindly bearing, her loving kindness, and the friendly methods of doing her good deeds, her tender and ennobling way of bringing cheer to the hearts of the unfortunate will probably never receive due credit in this world.

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### JOHN D. CHISM.

Among the citizens of Gibson county, Indiana, who have built up a comfortable home and surrounded themselves with valuable real estate and personal property, few have attained a higher degree of success than John D. Chism. With few opportunities except what his own efforts were capable of mastering and with many discouragements to overcome he has made an exceptional success in life and in his old age has the gratification of knowing that the community in which he resides has been benefited by his presence.

John D. Chism, one of the most successful farmers in Gibson county, Indiana, was born on August 28, 1852, in Montgomery township, this county. His parents were William and Mary (Fitzgerald) Chism. William Chism was born in White county, Illinois, and his wife was a native of Posey county, this state. John Chism, the father of William Chism, was one of the first of the family to come to White county, Illinois, and when the family settled there in 1812, they were in the midst of the struggles incident to the war of 1812. However, they were never troubled with the Indians, and lived in that county the remainder of their lives. William, the father of John Chism, was the only son of the family who grew to maturity. The four daughters of Mr. and Mrs. John Chism who grew to maturity were as follows: Mrs. Rachel Graham, Mrs. John Chism, Mrs. Margaret Blue, Mrs. Nancy Rudolph and Mrs. Sarah Graham. William Chism grew up in White county, Illinois, and received his limited education in the district schools of his home locality. In 1843 he left Illinois, settling in Gibson county, Indiana, about three miles north of Poseyville. Later he entered government land in Gibson county, this state, and cleared and improved a farm of respectable proportions. Here he lived the life of a farmer the remainder of his days, his death occurring in 1876. He was a life-long Democrat and, with his wife, a member of the Regular Baptist church. To Mr. and Mrs. William Chism were born eight children: James M., of Poseyville, Indiana, born October 11, 1845; Margaret, the wife of John Martin, born October 11, 1850; Hiram, born January 28, 1855, died



July 16, 1855; Elizabeth, born October 5, 1856, married Philip Martin, and lives on the old Chism homestead; William, born October 27, 1858, died October 9, 1859; Hattie, born January 2, 1865, married John Arbuthnot, of Center township, this county; Charles B., born August 2, 1862, is now a miner in Alaska, and John D., the immediate subject of this sketch.

John D. Chism was the third child in the family and received his education in the schools of his home locality, finishing his educational training in the Owensville high school. That he prospered well by his schooling is shown in the fact that he was successful in securing a teacher's license and later taught school in Posey county for one year. He continued to reside at home until his mother's death, after which he bought part of his father's old farm and built a house and otherwise improved the place. Later he sold this place and bought eighty acres on the state road south of Princeton about twelve miles and here he lived for nine years. He then sold this farm and purchased a farm near Douglas Station, Indiana, consisting of one hundred twenty acres, which he continued to operate for the next twenty-one years. In addition to his farming interests he also had a general store at Douglas Station and handled grain of all kinds. Mr. Chism has always been a very successful farmer, and in fact, everything to which he has turned his attention has been successful. He has made considerable money in the buying and selling of grain, live stock and agricultural products of all kinds.

John D. Chism was married November 17, 1881, to Grace B. Mauck, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alford Mauck, who are represented elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Chism are the parents of six children: Angie, who married Alva Montgomery in January, 1906. Immediately after marriage they lived in Montgomery township, but went west on account of Mrs. Montgomery's health and while there she died. Mrs. Montgomery left two children, Carroll, deceased in 1899, and Jeanette, Blanche L., who married Joseph McCullough, September 13, 1913, lives in Tulsa, Oklahoma; Mary, who, after graduating from the Princeton high school, entered Indiana University at Bloomington where she is still a student; Harold, who died in 1899, at the age of four years; Lucy, who is still at home and attending high school at Princeton.

Mr. Chism is a stanch Democrat, but has never been an aspirant for any political office. His business affairs have occupied all of his attention and demanded all of his time, so that he has had no time to play the political game in his county. However, he is a man who keeps well informed on all the current affairs of the day, and has decided convictions on important questions

which he is able to set forth in a very forcible manner. As a farmer and business man he has been eminently successful and he and his wife now are the owners of several valuable farms in Gibson county, as well as personal property of various kinds. The family moved in 1913 to Princeton and bought a home at 701 South Gibson street, where they dispense hospitality to a large circle of friends and acquaintances. Mr. Chism is a man of fine and alert mentality and is deeply interested in everything pertaining to the advancement of his community along material and moral lines, and for years has been prominent as one of Gibson county's highly respected citizens.

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### LEMUEL O. EMMERSON.

The history of a county or state, as well as that of a nation, is chiefly a chronicle of the lives and deeds of those who have conferred honor and dignity upon society. The world judges the character of a community by those of its representative citizens and yields its tributes of admiration and respect to those whose words and actions constitute the records of a state's prosperity and pride. Among the prominent citizens of Gibson county who are well known because of the part they have taken in public affairs is Lemuel O. Emmerson.

Lemuel O. Emmerson was born at King's Station, south of Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, on April 11, 1846, the son of Lemuel and Nancy (Dougan) Emmerson. The father was a son of Jesse Emmerson, who came from Lincoln county, Kentucky, to Gibson county, Indiana, on April 10, 1809, locating on what is known as the John Martin Smith place between Princeton and Owensville, and was one of the earliest settlers of this locality. He and his family floated down the Ohio river on canoes to Evansville, from there coming to Princeton, their first camp being on the present site of Judge Land's residence. At that time but little settlement had been made in this locality, the land being covered by a dense forest. Jesse Emmerson was born a British subject, his birth taking place near Culpeper, Virginia, in 1767, and it is noteworthy that he has a son, Henry P. Emmerson, who is now living in the Soldiers' Home at Lafayette, Indiana, being now (this year, 1914) eighty years of age. Thus two generations of this family have witnessed every change in the American colonies and states since the independence of the former. Jesse Emmerson was a farmer by vocation and a man of considerable influence and force in this community. He married Elizabeth



LEMUEL O. EMMERSON.



Emmerson, who was probably a cousin, and to them were born fourteen children, twelve sons and two daughters, five of whom were deaf and dumb, including the subject's father. Of these fourteen children, Henry P. is the only one living. The senior, Lemuel Emmerson, while living, was a successful farmer in Patoka township, this county, and died on December 12, 1845, a few months before the birth of the subject of this sketch. He was the father of five children, namely: Mary E. Mead, of Oakland City, Indiana; James R., of Oakland City; Mrs. Hannah J. Rutter, deceased; Mrs. Malissa Vickers, of Oakland City, and Lemuel O., the subject. After the father's death, the mother became the wife of Stephen Sanders, there being no issue to this union, and her death occurred in 1872 at Fort Branch, this county.

Lemuel O. Emmerson was reared on the paternal farmstead, receiving his education in the country schools of his home neighborhood. On December 8, 1863, when but sixteen years of age, he enlisted in Company D, One Hundred and Twentieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, rendering valuable service to his country, receiving an honorable discharge on December 8, 1866. He took part in all the campaigns and battles in which his regiment participated, including the battles around Atlanta, and those at Rocky Face, Snake Creek Gap, Resaca, Lost Mountain and Kenesaw Mountain. He helped to lay the bridge at the crossing of Chattahoochee river, at the mouth of Soap creek, and there waded the stream in the face of the enemy's fire. He was in the battle of Atlanta, where General McPherson was killed, and in the sanguinary conflict at Jonesboro. After the fall of Atlanta, Mr. Emmerson accompanied his regiment in the pursuit of Hood to Tennessee, and took part in the engagements at Columbia, Nashville, and Franklin, Tennessee, and was in the battle of Kingston, North Carolina, one of the last of that great conflict. Returning home upon the conclusion of his service, Mr. Emmerson went to school for two years and then engaged in teaching, which commanded his attention for twenty-nine years, during all of which period he taught in Gibson county schools with the exception of four terms. In 1868 Mr. Emmerson retired from pedagogical work as a profession and was elected a justice of the peace. This position he now holds, and he has discharged his duties to the entire satisfaction of all who have had business in his court. Well informed in the general principles of jurisprudence and with a large sense of justice and fairness, his decisions have been marked by a soundness of judgment and correctness of view, which have received the commendation of the higher courts.

On March 11, 1872, Mr. Emmerson was married to Marinda J. Mason, a

native of Gibson county and a representative of one of its sterling families. To this union there were born three children, of whom one is living, Bessie, the wife of Lewis A. Shearer, of Charleston, West Virginia. Mrs. Emmerson died in 1890, and on April 16, 1891, Mr. Emmerson married Mary E. French, of Fort Branch, this county. Politically, he is an ardent Republican, while his religious membership is with the General Baptist church. Fraternally, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Grand Army of the Republic. A man of sterling character and qualities, he has earned and retained to a notable degree the confidence and esteem of the entire community and is clearly entitled to representation in a work of the character of the one at hand.

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### JAMES KILMARTIN.

The history of the loyal sons and representative citizens of Gibson county would not be complete should the name that heads this review be omitted. When the fierce fire of rebellion was raging throughout the Southland, threatening to destroy the Union, he responded with patriotic fervor to the call for volunteers and in some of the bloodiest battles for which that great war was noted proved his loyalty to the government he loved so well. During a useful life he has labored diligently not only for his own material advancement, but has also been devoted to the public welfare, doing what he could to benefit the community and advance its standard of citizenship.

James Kilmartin was born July 4, 1846, in New Orleans, Louisiana, the son of Michael and Susan (Fox) Kilmartin. Michael Kilmartin was a native of county Tipperary, Ireland, and came to America in 1840, first locating in Muskingum county, Ohio, at Dresden, where his marriage took place, the wife being a native of Wayne county, Pennsylvania. After his marriage he went to New Orleans and remained about seven years, after which he returned to Ohio and became half owner in a distillery at Dresden, which he operated until his death, in 1854, in his thirty-second year. In early life he was a contractor and builder. Susan Fox, his wife, was a daughter of Henry Fox, of Pennsylvania, he being of German descent. In an early day Henry Fox secured a land claim in Guernsey county, Ohio, and hired a man to help him move his family to his newly acquired land. On the journey a wagon broke down and Mr. Fox went to the house of a nearby settler to secure a chain to repair the trouble. He never returned, and his

body was found in the river with the chain about his neck. The man who was helping him to move took the horse and left the family there alone in the woods for several days until travelers happening along found them and helped them to their claim in Guernsey county, where the mother and her family settled and made a home. Subject's maternal grandparents had eight children: John, Mary, Delilah, Henry, Sarah, Pete and the subject's mother. All of the family lived in Ohio, except John, who as a young man went to Polk county, Missouri.

To James Kilmartin's parents were born five children, as follows: A son died in New Orleans, Louisiana, in infancy; the subject; Mary and Aden are deceased; Sarah lives in Louisville, Kentucky.

The subject of this review attended the common schools and worked on the home farm until the commencement of the Civil war, when, September 11, 1862, he enlisted in Company F, Sixty-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which was sent to Fortress Monroe and the first battle in which subject was engaged was at Fredericksburg, Virginia. In the spring of 1863 Mr. Kilmartin's command was sent to South Carolina and was at New Berne and Morris Island; July 10, 1863, they were at the siege of Fort Wagner, and then were ordered to Hilton Head, South Carolina, where the regiment was veteranized and granted a thirty days' furlough to visit their homes. Returning to Virginia, Mr. Kilmartin's command was assigned to the Tenth Army Corps and they were in all the engagements up to and including Appomattox, and were granted honorable discharge June 20, 1865, when they returned to the Buckeye state. Mr. Kilmartin's health was badly broken while he was in the service and he long suffered from the effects of the exposure and hardships which he endured. He remained in Ohio until 1868 and then went to Maysville, Mason county, Kentucky, and went to work at the cooper's trade, which he had previously learned. He worked in different parts of Kentucky until 1880, when he came to Oakland City, Indiana, and followed his vocation there until 1900, coming then to Princeton, where he was employed in the same manner until his retirement.

In 1870, in Maysville, Kentucky, Mr. Kilmartin was married to Frances Snidicor, of that city, a daughter of Gilbert and Minerva (Hampton) Snidicor, she of Maysville, Kentucky, and he of Orange county, New York. He was a soldier in the Sixteenth Kentucky Infantry and served four years. He was a boot and shoe maker by trade and a fine workman. Both he and his wife died in Maysville. To the subject and wife have been born the following children: George, who is a cooper by trade, has engaged in

several different kinds of business, and is now living at home, employed with Smith & Riggs, grocers. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Tribe of Ben-Hur, and the Free and Accepted Masons; Ida A. is at home; Minnie is the wife of Walter Riggs, grocer, of Princeton.

Mr. Kilmartin is an honored member of Archer Post, Grand Army of the Republic, is now senior vice commander of the post and has always taken an active interest in its affairs. Mrs. Kilmartin is a member of the Methodist church, having belonged to it for many years.

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### CHARLES KIGHTLY.

The character of a community is determined in a large measure by the lives of a comparatively few of its members. If its moral and intellectual status be good, if in a social way it is a pleasant place in which to reside, if its reputation as to the integrity of its citizens has extended into other localities, it will be found that the standards set by the leading men have been high and their influence such as to mould the characters and shape the lives of those with whom they mingle. In placing the late Charles Kightly in the front rank of such men, justice is rendered a biographical fact universally recognized throughout the locality long honored by his citizenship by those at all familiar with his history. Although a quiet and unassuming man, with no ambition for public position or leadership, he contributed much to the material, civic and moral advancement of his community, while his admirable qualities of head and heart and the straightforward, upright course of his daily life won for him the esteem and confidence of the circles in which he moved, and, although he is now sleeping the "sleep of the just," his influence still lives and his memory is greatly revered.

Charles Kightly, who for many years was well known as a successful druggist and public-spirited citizen at Oakland City, Indiana, was born in 1850 in Chatters, England, and his death occurred at his home in Oakland City on January 14, 1913. He was the son of John and Mary Kightly, who also were born at Chatters, and who came to the United States in 1852, landing at New Orleans. They came on to Evansville, Indiana, where they located on December 25, 1852, and there the father's death occurred about six months later. He was a farmer by vocation and a man of clean life and excellent characteristics. He was survived many years by his widow, who died in 1902, at the age of eighty-six years. They were the parents of five



children, of whom two are now living, Mrs. Barridge and Mrs. Williams, both now residing in Evansville.

Charles Kightly received his education in the common schools of Evansville, supplementing this by a special course of training in a business college, and in 1877 he came to Hazleton, Gibson county, Indiana, and entered the employ of his uncle, Josiah Kightly, who operated a store. In addition to clerking in the store Mr. Kightly engaged in buying wheat and other grain for his uncle, and also during this period learned the drug business. The latter vocation attracted him, and in 1880 he opened a drug store on his own account at Poseyville, Indiana, which he operated for nine years with good success, but on account of poor health he was compelled to dispose of his business, and during the following two years he located at Evansville, though during that time he traveled much of the time. In 1892 Mr. Kightly came to Oakland City and bought the W. L. West drug store and devoted himself to the management of this business until his death. He was a keen and sagacious business man and so managed his affairs as to reap a satisfactory pecuniary reward. He enjoyed a wide acquaintance throughout Gibson county and made many warm personal friends who esteemed him highly because of his excellent personal characteristics and his success in business affairs. He owned a splendid and attractive home in Oakland City where his widow now resides.

In 1878, Mr. Kightly married, at Hazleton, Indiana, Eva M. Gardner, who was born at Princeton, Indiana, the daughter of James T. and Martha (Ewing) Gardner. James T. Gardner came to Princeton, Indiana, as a single man, and here was married. He was a cooper by trade and eventually located at Hazleton, where he worked at his trade until 1885, when he went to California and entered the soldiers' home, where he has since lived. He still makes regular trips back to his old home to see his family, his wife still residing at Hazleton, as she does not care to go so far away from the other members of her family. James T. Gardner is a veteran of the Civil war, having enlisted at Princeton in Company D, Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, with which command he served throughout the war, taking part in many of the most important battles and campaigns of that historic struggle. During his residence in Gibson county he enjoyed a wide acquaintance and was highly respected by all who knew him. To him and his wife were born five children, namely: Eva M. Kightly, Marion, deceased, who was the wife of William Reedy, of Hazleton; Agnes, the wife of Henry Briner, of Hazleton, with whom their mother now lives; Sallie, who died at

the age of eighteen years; Clifford C., who lives at Detroit, Michigan, is district passenger agent for the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific railroad; he married May Stewart, of Dysart, Iowa. To Mr. and Mrs. Kightly were born two daughters, Edith, the wife of Sanford Trippett, of Princeton, Indiana, who are the parents of three children, Blanche, Byron K. and Charles K.; Blanche married B. O. Bennett, now of Caruthersville, Missouri, and is a civil engineer. They have one daughter, Martha G.

Fraternally, Charles Kightly was an appreciative member of the Knights of Pythias, and he and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Kightly is remembered by those who knew him well as a man of strong personality, but he never forced his convictions upon anyone, being notably reserved and undemonstrative. His high sense of honor restrained him from directing his activities toward any but worthy objects. He was a splendid type of the self-made man, having in him the elements that make men successful in the highest degree. Pre-eminent among his qualities was that sound judgment which is ordinarily called common sense. His good judgment extended to men as well as measures and for these reasons he was a thoroughly practical man, self-reliant, firm and resolute. To this was added the one thing necessary for the ideal business man, a scrupulous honesty in his dealings with his fellow men. His life was exemplary in every respect and his memory will long be carried by a wide circle of friends and acquaintances throughout this section of the state.

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### FRANKLIN JONES.

The best title one can establish to the high and generous esteem of an intelligent community is a protracted and honorable residence therein. The subject of this sketch, some years deceased, spent his entire life in Gibson county and because of his earnest and consistent life in the face of ill health sufficient to discourage totally one of less optimism and natural hopefulness, he earned the sincere respect and good opinion of all who knew him.

Franklin Jones was a native of Gibson county, born near Owensville, in Montgomery township in 1823, and died near where he was born June 16, 1908. He was born in the first one of four houses built on the same site and died in the last one built. He was a son of Charles and Eleanor (Warrick) Jones and the parents of Charles were Cadwallader and Martha (Pitt) Jones, natives of England. Martha (Pitt) Jones was a relative of William Pitt,

England's famous statesman, and came to America before she was married. Her people located in North Carolina, where also located the Jones family from England and there she and Cadwallader Jones were married. In their early married life they went to Kentucky to make their home and there their son, Charles, was born in the vicinity of Hopkinsville. Cadwallader died there and Martha came to Indiana with her son Charles. She married the second time after locating in Gibson county, her husband being Jesse Wells, and they lived on Barren creek, about three and one-half miles west of Owensville. Charles Jones took as his wife Eleanor Warrick, daughter of Capt. Jacob Warrick, who made a name for himself during the Indian wars in the early days of the state, and received a mortal wound at the battle of Tippecanoe. Charles Jones and wife took up their residence on land south of Owensville and lived there until their death. Twelve children were born to Charles Jones and wife, namely: Mrs. Eliza Waters; Jacob W., who never married and made his home with his brother John near Midland City, Illinois, and died there at the age of eighty-eight. He had a very retentive memory and prided himself on his knowledge of the history of his family. He was also proud of the fact that his first vote was cast for Henry Clay for President of the United States, and always recalled with pleasure that he had heard Abraham Lincoln speak. He was successful financially and accumulated considerable wealth during his life. The third child was Franklin, the immediate subject of this sketch; John became quite wealthy also and lived for many years near Midland City, Illinois, where he died; Nancy, a daughter, became the wife of Abram Mauck; William always lived on his father's place south of Owensville, Indiana, and died there March 14, 1908; Robert died in infancy; Martha lived to be about forty years of age and died unmarried; Thomas Corwin Jones made his home south of Owensville. His wife was Mary Kesterson and to them were born five children. The mother and three of the children are dead. Marshall lived for many years at Beatrice, Nebraska, and died there, while James Smith Jones never married and died on the old homestead in Gibson county.

On December 16, 1847, Franklin Jones was united in marriage to Comfort Sharp, born near Cynthiana, Indiana, and a daughter of John Wright and Temperance (Sharp) Sharp. The Sharp family originally came from Carroll county, near Baltimore, Maryland, and at the close of the eighteenth century went to Kentucky, later coming to Gibson county about 1833. Benjamin Sharp, father of John Wright Sharp, secured government land which he reclaimed from the wilderness, located near the present site of Owensville,

and this same tract of land is to-day known as the Franklin Jones estate. Benjamin Sharp and wife were the parents of twelve children, namely: Thomas, John Wright, Talbott, Micajah, Benjamin, Mary Weaver, Hannah, Nancy, Cassandra, Mrs. Sally Pollard, Prudence Pollard and Carolina Montgomery. Benjamin Sharp's wife was Elizabeth Wright.

Benjamin Sharp's brother Thomas married Rachael Elliott and settled in Gibson county on the land now owned by William H. Redman. There were eight children in their family, two sets of triplets and one set of twins. Their names were: James E., Horatio, George, John, Hugh, Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Hunter, Mrs. Temperance Sharp and her twin sister Comfort.

John Wright Sharp, son of Benjamin Sharp, married Temperance Sharp, daughter of his uncle Thomas. They had two daughters, Comfort and a child who died in infancy. John Wright Sharp and wife died when their little daughter, Comfort, was only twelve years old, and she came to live with her aunt Elizabeth Herring on the land where John Wright Jones, mentioned elsewhere in this volume, now resides, and there she made her home until her marriage to Franklin Jones. Her mother, Temperance Sharp, daughter of Thomas Sharp, was born in 1800, and when the baby, Temperance, was but two weeks old, her father started on a trip back to Maryland. While there, the baby's Aunt Temperance gave her a ring for the little namesake, made of Guinea gold and that ring is still in existence, being in the possession of the daughters of Franklin Jones.

Franklin Jones and wife were the parents of eight children, all of whom lived past maturity. There were Eleanor W., Maria, John Wright, Martha Temperance, Eliza Jane, Mary Elizabeth, Sarah Alice, and William Franklin. All are now living but Sarah Alice, who was the wife of W. O. Jones, and died leaving five children. Her husband is still living near Owensville. Eleanor W., Maria, Martha Temperance and Eliza Jane still live on the old homestead left them by their parents. They proved themselves worthy children of such excellent parents, and remained with their father and mother, caring for them through their old age. Mary, one of the daughters of the family, is the wife of Theodore Crawford and lives not far from the old home and William F. also lives in the neighborhood.

Franklin Jones was a farmer all his life, but for many years was unable to engage in the active work required about the homestead owing to continued illness which incapacitated him, and the management of the home fell very largely upon his efficient and faithful wife and the older children of the family. Notwithstanding this, however, they reared their large family,

caring for them properly, and accumulated considerable property besides. While not a member of any church society, Franklin Jones gave his religious sympathies to the Baptist church and lived in strict accordance with the rules of same. Throughout his life, his manner of living was such as to win for him many warm friends, and considering the disadvantage under which he labored, he was able to accomplish a surprising amount. From beneath his roof, sons and daughters have gone forth to take their places in the world, bearing with them the consciousness of early and correct training.

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#### ZADOK M. McCLEARY.

To attain a worthy citizenship by a life that is always honored and respected, even from childhood, deserves more than mere mention. It is no easy task to resist the many temptations of youth and early manhood and plant a character in the minds and hearts of associates that will remain an unstained figure for all time. One may take his place in public life through some vigorous stroke of public policy, and even remain in the hearts of friends and neighbors, but to take the same position by dint of the practice of an upright life and without a craving for exaltation merely for selfish ends, whose chief desires seem to be to serve others and lead a life of usefulness and honor, is worthy of the highest praise and commendation. Such a man is Zadok M. McCleary, a man who has discharged his public and private duties as they appeared to him, honestly and in a spirit of candor and fairness. He is always ready to assist when he sees that aid is needed and he certainly deserves the high esteem in which he is held.

Zadok M. McCleary was born in Barton township, Gibson county, Indiana, December 1, 1844, the son of James L. and Maria (Martin) McCleary, he a son of William, of Ohio, and he a son of Robert, of Ireland. The McCleary family were early settlers in Barton township, Gibson county, arriving in that community about the same time as the Skelton family. They settled on wild land and the family has always lived in that locality.

Subject's father was a farmer and died in 1878, at the age of sixty-five, and his wife passed away in 1877, in her sixty-fifth year. They were members of the Baptist church. To them were born eight children: (1) William H. is deceased. He married Jane C. Kirkpatrick and they had three children, James, John K. and Thomas W. William H. was a soldier in Company F, Forty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry. (2) James W. was a member

of Company F, Forty-second Indiana Volunteers, and was killed at Stone's River. (3) Jacob died young. (4) The subject. (5) Mary married James C. McGregor and both are deceased. (6) Anna is the wife of Miles McKane, of Chandler, Indiana. (8) Dicey D. married Neamiah Wallace and died in Essex, Missouri.

Zadok M. McCleary received little schooling and worked on the home place until the outbreak of the Civil war, when he, his father and two brothers all enlisted in Company F, Forty-second Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, his father and brothers enlisting on October 9, 1861, and the subject in December of that year, he joining the company at Chattanooga, Tennessee. He was in Sherman's command on the march to the sea, and was engaged in all the battles and skirmishes incident to that memorable campaign, finally taking part in the grand review at Washington, D. C. Mr. McCleary was discharged from the army July 21, 1865, at Louisville, Kentucky, and returned home.

On December 22, 1865, Mr. McCleary was united in marriage to Nancy L. Kirkpatrick, of Barton township, the daughter of John and Nancy (Wilson) Kirkpatrick, who were early pioneers in Barton township, having come here from the Chester district of South Carolina, their native state. They spent their lives in Barton township, the father being a farmer. To John and Nancy Kirkpatrick were born ten children, namely: Letitia, deceased wife of James C. Minnis; Jane, widow of William H. McCleary, of Mackey, Barton township; Robert and William, deceased; Mary, deceased, married James M. Hunter, who died in Andersonville prison; John, deceased; Nancy, the wife of Mr. McCleary; Sarah, deceased; one died in infancy; James, of Bentonville, Arkansas.

To Mr. and Mrs. McCleary have been born eight children: Hettie died at the age of fifteen years; Laura Ann married W. D. Farris, of Barton township, and is the mother of the following children: Charles (deceased), Ella (deceased), Alva, Lillie, Floyd (deceased), Lula, John, Hazel, Josie, Earl, one died in infancy, and William; Cora married James W. Farris, of Barton township, and is the mother of five children, Harley, Mahala, Blanche, Clyde and Harvey; Clara married L. L. Bell, of Evansville, Indiana, and has five children, Russell, Fred, John, Edward and Esther; John enlisted in the regular army of the United States June 16, 1898, and was honorably discharged April 15, 1899, by general order number forty-four, from headquarters at San Juan, Porto Rico. He served all through the Spanish-American war. Previous to his army service he was with the Tutor Iron

Works at East St. Louis and was also a member of the East St. Louis police force. He died September 4, 1906. He was a splendid young man, a Mason and an Odd Fellow; Mary is the widow of David Fields, of Mt. Vernon, Illinois, and has one daughter, Edith; Emma is the widow of Crawford Martin, of Mt. Vernon, Illinois; Dora is the wife of George F. Seats, a mill man of Houlika, Mississippi. They have two children, Thelma and Golden.

After the war Mr. McCleary lived in Barton township and followed agriculture until 1892, when he removed to Summerville, Indiana, remaining there until 1906, when he located in Oakland City, where he has since remained.

Mr. McCleary is an honored member of the Grand Army of the Republic, being a member of A. H. Cockrum Post No. 520, at Oakland City, and is now serving his eighth term as commander. The subject is a faithful and earnest member of the General Baptist church at Oakland City.

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### BENJAMIN FRANKLIN JOHNSON.

A career marked by earnest and indefatigable application has been that of the honored and substantial citizen of Gibson county, Indiana, whose name appears at the head of this sketch. In this county he has had a continuous residence of nearly four score years, in all of which time his life has been an open book and read by his fellowmen. He was a valiant soldier of the Civil war, where his fidelity was of the type which has characterized his actions in all relations and gained for him the confidence and esteem of the public, and the unbounded respect of all with whom he has been brought into contact. As a farmer looking out for everything which would advance the farming interests of his community; as a public official endeavoring to put into his office the best judgment which he possessed; as a soldier in the late Rebellion, we find him in all of these various walks a man in whom his fellowmen could place unbounded confidence. The old soldiers are fast passing away and the few who are left should be honored by every citizen who loves his country. These were the men who proved their love and loyalty to the government along the path of marches, on the lonely picket line, on the tented field and amid the flame and smoke of battle and then returning to civil life, again took up manfully the struggle of industrial and commercial life, but whether in war or in peace, the record of Mr. Johnson has been signalized by honesty of purpose and integrity of thought and action so that he has fully



deserved the position which has been granted to him by the people with whom he has mingled for so many years.

Benjamin Franklin Johnson was born April 23, 1834, in Pike county, Indiana. His parents were Benjamin and Polly (Almon) Johson, the father a native of Virginia, and a son of Arthur Johnson, who was born in 1757 in Virginia and served through the Revolutionary war. At the close of that struggle he returned to civil pursuits and married Lucy Harmon and moved to Kentucky, and from thence he went to Gibson county, Indiana, settling in Montgomery township. After remaining there a few years he went westward and settled in White county, Illinois, where his death occurred. About twenty years after his death his grandsons, Levi and Benjamin Franklin, moved his body to a cemetery seven miles north of Carmi and erected a substantial monument over his grave. Polly Almon, the mother of the subject, was born in Kentucky and while she was still a young girl, moved to this state and settled in Montgomery township, this county. She was a daughter of Arnot Almon and wife. She had a brother, Thomas, who was wounded in the battle of Tippecanoe in 1811, and another brother, Buckner, who was killed in the same battle. Benjamin Johnson and wife, parents of the subject, settled in Montgomery township, this county, after their marriage, while B. J. Johnson was a small child, and soon after coming here the wife and mother died. Benjamin Johnson lived a widower the rest of his life, his death occurring at the age of sixty-three, having spent his whole life on the farm. To Benjamin Johnson and wife were born eight children, of whom three of the sons are living: Thomas Almon, of Owensville; Marion, of Oakland City, and Benjamin Franklin, the immediate subject of this sketch. Three of the brothers, Thomas, B. F. and William R., deceased, were soldiers of the Civil war.

Benjamin Franklin Johnson enlisted on September 3, 1863, in Company D, One Hundred and Twentieth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was assigned to duty in the Twenty-third Army Corps under General Schofield in the Army of the West. He participated in many battles and skirmishes, among which were the battles of Resaca, Kingston, North Carolina, the second battle of Nashville, and others in the northwest part of Georgia and Tennessee. He was at Raleigh, North Carolina, in the spring of 1865 when Johnson surrendered to General Sherman. He was then kept on guard duty until January 6, 1866, at which time he was finally mustered out. He immediately returned to Montgomery township, and resumed his farming operations.



Mr. Johnson has been married three times, his first marriage occurring on September 4, 1859, to Laura A. Davis, the daughter of William and Sally (Johnson) Davis. Her father was a native of North Carolina and came to this state in an early day, his family settling along Black river in Montgomery township, near the Posey county line. To Mr. Johnson's first union were born five children: Emma, the widow of William Henry Sharpe, who now lives in Vincennes, and is the mother of six children, five living and one dead; Ida Ross, deceased wife of Julius Martin, was the mother of three children, two living and one dead; Sally D., the wife of R. M. Johnson, lives in Hamilton county, Illinois, and has six children; Charles, deceased, was the father of three children, one of whom is also deceased; William W., who lives at Vincennes, is a practicing attorney in that city.

In 1876 Mr. Johnson married Henrietta (Williams) Mounts, who died two years later, January 22, 1878, leaving two sons, James Burgess, who died in infancy, and Francis Alexis, who lives at Centralia, Illinois. Francis A. married Margaret Benson, and they have one son. On November 3, 1881, Mr. Johnson married Mary Ann Parkhill, the daughter of John and Martha (Patterson) Parkhill. She was born in Claysville, Guernsey county, Ohio, and to this union four children were born: Lena, the wife of Bert Dodd, who lives in Vincennes, and has one son, Benjamin Franklin Dodds, born December 7, 1906; Dr. Morris H. C., a physician at Vincennes; Benjamin Ernest, a telegraph operator, of Floren, California, who married Florence Towes, and Martin Harrison, of Chicago Heights, who is an employe of the United States Steel Corporation at that place.

Fraternally, Mr. Johnson belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and has been a life-long member of that fraternity. He has always taken a prominent part in public affairs and has served as a member of the Gibson county council for four years, failing of re-election only by a mistake in the printing of the ballots. He served as constable for eight years upon his return from the war, and made a most excellent official in the capacity. As a member of the county council he took an active part in all the affairs of that important body. He has been a member of the Grand Army of the Republic for more than forty years, and has always been found a true friend of the soldier. He and his wife are loyal members of the Christian church, and have always contributed liberally to the support of that denomination. In all his relations with his fellow men he has so conducted himself that he has won the esteem and confidence of all with whom he has come in contact.

## THOMAS COYNE.

The history of every man is an account of what he does, and the life history of some men is as interesting as a novel. A novelist could take the life history of Thomas Coyne, of Princeton, and around it weave a romance which would make a novel of first rank. The incidents in his life, the struggles through which he has gone and the fine type of character which is illustrated in the man would make a story which would grasp the hearts of its readers. His story begins in Ireland, where he was born March 24, 1846, and after thousands and thousands of miles of wandering he is now living at Princeton, Indiana, a peaceful, quiet life, surrounded by his family and friends and highly respected and honored by everyone in the community.

Thomas Coyne was born in Ireland, the son of John and Nora (Welsh) Coyne. His father died when he was a small boy and he came with his mother and the rest of the family to America when he was thirteen years of age and settled in Cincinnati, Ohio, at which place the mother shortly afterwards died. The children of Mr. and Mrs. John Coyne were Nora, deceased; Martin, of Manchester, Ohio, who served the government during the Civil war and is now a furniture dealer in that place; Anna, of Germantown, Ohio; Mary, of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Thomas, the immediate subject of this sketch.

Thomas Coyne never went to school and what education he has gained has been actually picked up in the tramp life which he passed through in his experiences in the Civil war and in the regular army afterwards. He is surely a self-taught man. As a small boy he ran away from his home in Cincinnati and never stopped until he found himself in the camp of the Union soldiers in West Virginia in the summer of 1861. One of the officers asked him what he wanted to do, and he told him that he wanted to become a soldier. Accordingly he was taken into the camp, given food and set to work feeding and caring for the army mules. He proved to be a very efficient boy and when the army changed camp he was taken along and went with the army from place to place until he reached Washington, D. C. He was then sent to Warrington, Virginia, and carried the mail from Culpeper to Siegel's division in eastern West Virginia. While on duty he was taken sick and **had to return to his home in Cincinnati.** Just as soon as he recovered he enlisted, on December 2, 1862, as a second-class boy in the United States navy and served on a boat which did patrol duty on the Mississippi, Ohio, Tennessee and Cumberland rivers. He was promoted to quartermaster the sum-

mer he was sixteen years of age and served as long as this boat was on duty, being discharged on July 11, 1864. From 1864 to 1866 he was in the government employ at Nashville, Tennessee, as a teamster. On March 8, 1866, he enlisted in the United States Regular Army, Company G, Fourth Light Artillery, and was stationed at Detroit, Michigan. After his enlistment had expired he went to Wyandotte, Ohio, and there took employment as a puddler in the steel works. While here he was married to Mary Ellen Kelly, of Wyandotte, Ohio. Owing to the nature of his occupation he made frequent changes during the next few years. In 1871 he left Wyandotte, Ohio, and went to Cleveland, that state, where he remained for about nine months. From here he went to Niles, Ohio, and in 1872 to Erie, Pennsylvania, and the following year returned to Ohio and worked for a time at Ashtabula, where his wife died. There were two children by this marriage, Mary, deceased, and James, of Princeton, Indiana. In 1873 the panic came on and all of the factories shut down, and for this reason Mr. Coyne could not find any work at all. For the next two years he was merely a wanderer over the face of the earth and traveled thousands of miles, trying to find something to do. In 1875 he found a position in the stone quarry at Greencastle, Indiana, where he worked for about a year, and then, in 1876, came to Owensville, Indiana, where he found employment in a saw mill.

Mr. Coyne was married a second time in 1879, to Julia Ellen Nolan, of Gallatin county, Illinois, and to this union there have been born four children: Thomas E., who married Mabel Daugherty and is now with the Stormburg Electric Company, of Chicago, Illinois; Nina, the wife of Levi Welsh, of Decatur, Illinois, who has two children, John and Mary Ellen; John Martin, the third child, is now with Brooks & Company, an auditing company, of Chicago. For four years he was traffic manager of the Carson, Perrin & Scott Company, of Chicago. He married Mary L. Gales; Gladys Dale, the youngest child, is still under the parental roof, and is now a senior in the high school at Princeton. The children have all been remarkably successful and reflect great honor upon their parents.

He went from Owensville to Oakland City, Indiana, where he worked in a flouring mill for a short time. From Oakland City he went to Princeton, where he remained for two years. In 1889 he went to Kingfisher county, Oklahoma, with his family and entered one hundred and sixty acres of government land on which he lived for six years. However, the crops were so poor that he decided to give up his claim and return to this county. After disposing of his land and farming implements, he started overland and

settled for a time in St. Clair county, Illinois. The contrast between the old life and conditions in Oklahoma was so marked and so much to the advantage of Illinois that he lived in that state for six years. In 1901, however, he came back to Princeton with his family and bought his present home at 829 North Race street, where he and his family are now living. He is now in the employ of the Southern Railway shops at Princeton.

Mr. Coyne is one of the most loyal members of the Grand Army of the Republic post at Princeton, Indiana, and always take a very active interest in the deliberations and activities of that order. He is also a member of the Free and Accepted Masons and a Knight Templar at Princeton. Mr. and Mrs. Coyne are members of the First Baptist church at Princeton and are both interested in the moral and civic welfare of their community. They are fine people in the highest sense of the word and have reared a splendid family of children. Today there is no more highly respected citizen in Princeton than Thomas Coyne.

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### L. J. DEUTSCH.

Among the earnest men whose enterprise and depth of character have gained a prominent place in the community and the respect and confidence of his fellow citizens is L. J. Deutsch, well-known merchant of Oakland City. He is a man of decided views and laudable ambitions, and his influence has ever been for advancement of his kind and in the vocation to which his energies are devoted he ranks among the thriftiest young business men and is deserving of the large success which has attended his efforts.

L. J. Deutsch, well-known merchant and well-known citizen of Oakland City, was born near Corydon, Harrison county, Indiana, on February 12, 1864, the son of Jacob and Magdalen (Louis) Deutsch. Both of these parents were natives of Alsace, Germany, who came to America in childhood with their parents, who located respectively in Kentucky, and Corydon, Indiana. The father followed farming during his active years and eventually removed from Louisville, Kentucky, to Harrison county, Indiana, where he lived until his final removal to Gibson county. In 1881 Albert Deutsch, an elder brother, came to Oakland City and engaged in the grocery business. The subject of this sketch came here one year later and the balance of the family in 1886. The business was begun in a modest way at the corner of Harrison and Main streets, and they were prospered in this enterprise, but eventually suffered the loss of their entire stock by fire. They then located on Depot



L. J. DEUTSCH.



street, but about eight years ago removed to their present location on Main street. Albert and L. J. Deutsch were in business together until, about fourteen years ago, the former sold his business and located at San Antonio, Texas, where he is now engaged in the lumber business. The father of these sons died here about seven years ago, and the mother about two years later. They were the parents of eight children, of whom six are living, namely: Mrs. Sallie Houston, of Odon, Indiana; Mrs. Emma D. Mauck, of Bentonville, Arkansas; Albert, of San Antonio, Texas; Mrs. Mary Hurley, of Bentonville, Arkansas; L. J., the immediate subject of this sketch, and Mrs. Anna Evans, of Shreveport, Indiana.

L. J. Deutsch received his education in the public schools at Corydon, and practically his entire life has been spent in the grocery business. He first worked in a store in New Albany, from whence he came to this locality in 1882. Possessed of marked business ability and characterized by sturdy perseverance and indomitable industry, his success has been earned by hard work and has been honestly merited. He has been successful in his material affairs and has other interests aside from his grocery, being a stockholder, director and vice-president of the First National Bank, of Oakland City, and a man of definite and recognized influence in local commercial affairs.

In September, 1892, Mr. Deutsch married Elizabeth Martin, of Oakland City, this county, the daughter of Jackson and Virginia Martin, and to them have been born two children, Magdalen and Robert.

Politically, Mr. Deutsch is a Democrat, while his religious affiliation is with the Presbyterian church. Fraternally, he is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons and the Knights of Pythias, having attained to the degree of Knight Templar in the first named order. He is deeply interested in everything pertaining to the welfare of the community in which he resides and is now rendering efficient service as president of the Oakland City school board. The store conducted by him is one of the most popular and most extensively patronized stores of its kind in this locality, its large success being very largely due to the able management and wise business discernment of the subject, who is a progressive, alert and careful business man and who has his affairs under superb system, his customers always receiving courteous and honest treatment. Mr. Deutsch is deserving of great credit for what he has accomplished, for he is a self-made man in the truest sense of the word and has accumulated the competency which is his through his own unaided efforts. Because of his sterling qualities of character and his high standing in the community, he occupies an enviable position among his fellow citizens.

## JAMES A. BLACK.

The gentleman whose life history the biographer here takes under review is one of those strong, sturdily characters who have contributed largely to the welfare of the community where he lives, being a business man of more than ordinary sagacity and foresight, and as a citizen, public spirited and progressive in all that the term implies. He is a native son of the old Hoosier state, having been born in Monroe township, Pike county, Indiana, on March 27, 1843. He is a son of David and Martha (Coleman) Black, the former of whom was a native of Georgia, born in 1812, and the latter born in Crab Orchard, Kentucky. David was a son of William Black and came as a small boy with his parents to Indiana, locating in what is now Monroe township, Pike county. They were among the first white settlers in that vicinity and made their location right in the midst of the primeval forest with Indians and wild beasts all about them. Here they commenced the arduous task of making a home, and after years of hard work they converted that once forest home into well cultivated fields and buildings and there they reared their family. William also served in the War of 1812, prior to coming to Indiana, and was a man highly respected in those early days. William Black and wife were the parents of five children, namely: Robert, who lived near Decker Station, Indiana; William, who went early to Missouri; John, who became one of the first settlers in southeastern Illinois; David, father of the immediate subject of this sketch, and the only daughter, Betsy, who was the wife of Richard Barrett and lived at Oakland City and later in Center township, Gibson county.

David Black received his education in the early subscription schools, whose advantages were very limited, reading, writing and arithmetic being about the only branches taught. He was ambitious to own land in his own right and when a young man he obtained a tract of government land in Patoka township, Pike county, which he cleared and where he made his home. The old log cabin he erected is still standing on the place. He acquired one hundred and twenty acres of good land and always engaged in farming. He was an old-line Whig and was active in the affairs of his party. He was also a member of the General Baptist church and did much to further the interests of that society in the new territory. He was a man who took interest in public affairs and was much looked up to and respected. He died on his home farm at the age of seventy-three years and his wife passed away at the age of sixty-seven. They were the parents of fourteen children,



namely: Robert and William, both deceased, were engaged in farming in Pike county. The former married Malinda Lowe and the latter's wife was Mary Ann Davis. Henry died unmarried, and David, who was a farmer in Pike county, married Celia Pierson. John, deceased, married a Miss Crowe. When but sixteen years of age he enlisted in Company F, Eighteenth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served throughout the war. After its close he engaged in the saw mill business at Wheeling, Indiana. Samuel was also a soldier of the Rebellion, a member of Company I, Forty-second Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry. Three months after enlisting, he contracted measles and died in the hospital at Louisville, Kentucky. He left a widow, Mary Jane Coe. Frank, who resided on the old home place, married Elizabeth Coe. James Aaron is the immediate subject of this sketch. Rebecca became the wife of John Davis, of Pike county; both are dead. Martha is the widow of W. M. Christeson and resides in Pike county; Mary Ann, deceased, was the wife of M. Chumry, and Nancy married George Face, and both of them are dead. Henry died in Illinois. Rebecca married Conrad Slater, who was killed in the Civil war.

James A. Black attended the early schools of Pike county and resided under the parental roof until the age of nineteen years, when, on August 22, 1862, at Rockport, Indiana, he enlisted in Company I, Forty-second Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was sent to Indianapolis to be fitted out for service. From there he was sent to Louisville, Kentucky, and from there his company marched to join their regiment at Salt River, Kentucky. He was on a three days' march from Louisville to Bardstown when he was taken down with measles and was sent to Hospital Number Four at Bardstown. This hospital was established in an old woolen factory and during his month's illness there he almost died. Before leaving there he was captured by General Morgan, after having suffered from typhoid fever and diphtheria in addition to the original sickness of measles. At enlistment he had weighed one hundred and forty-six pounds and after leaving the hospital his weight was reduced to eighty pounds. As soon as he was able to be removed, his brother Frank came and took him home and he was discharged for disability in the spring of 1863. It took him fully two years to convalesce and for some time after that he was not strong.

In 1867 he was married to Harriet Harkness, of Hardin county, Kentucky, and to them were born eight children, three of whom, Zada, Annie and William, are dead. John L. is in the restaurant business at Oakland City, Indiana. His wife was Stella Pipes. Charles, who married Eliza Coleman,

is a farmer in Pike county; Clarence farms his father's homestead in Pike county. His wife was Ella Green. Della remains at home, and Hettie, the fourth child in order of birth, is the wife of William Leinhart, of Patoka township, Pike county.

After his marriage, Mr. Black purchased a forty-acre tract in Monroe township, Pike county, which was their original home and to this he has added from time to time until he now owns two hundred and forty acres of finely located land, which he himself has cleared and on which he has made all the improvements. He has always engaged in general farming and in addition has raised considerable stock, devoting especial attention to registered Poland-China hogs. He has also dealt extensively in cattle in addition to what he has raised. In 1902 he and three of his sons went to Williams county, North Dakota, and entered land. Mr. Black disposed of his holdings there in 1905 and on his return located in Oakland City, where he has since resided in retirement from active business. Mr. Black's religious sympathies are with the General Baptist church, to which he gives liberally of his means. He is a staunch Republican of the old school and also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Mr. Black has been engaged in hard work all his life, has used his brain as well as his hands, and has reaped the reward which comes to those who so toil. He is well and widely known, has a large circle of friends in both Pike and Gibson counties and is honored and respected by all. He has always taken an interest in public affairs and has always been quick to array himself on the side of right and good for the community at large. He served nineteen times as a juror under Judge Welborn.

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### ISAAC R. BENNETT.

It is with a great degree of satisfaction that biographers revert to the lives of those who have made the rough path of life smooth by their untiring perseverance, and have attained success in any vocation requiring definiteness, consecutive endeavor and determined action. Such lives, whether they be of calm, conservative routine, or of sudden accomplishments, must abound in both lesson and incentive and prove a guide to young men whose fortunes are yet matters for the future to determine.

Isaac R. Bennett was born in Morgan county, Illinois, June 6, 1837, the son of Isaac R. and Mary (Jones) Bennett, he of Bourbon county, Kentucky, and she of North Carolina. The subject's father was one of the pioneers in

Morgan county, Illinois, where he lived all his life, his death occurring in 1881, in his eighty-first year. His wife died in 1864, aged fifty-six. He was a prominent man in his day and had the respect of all who knew him. As early as the year 1818 it is recorded that he sat on a jury, probably one of the very first juries in his community. He followed farming and was a justice of the peace for forty years, was an associate judge and a member of the Legislature in 1854. Having a close acquaintance with the immortal Abraham Lincoln, the subject's father took a great interest in the political successes of the martyred President. He served all through the Mexican War. To Isaac R. Bennett, Sr., and wife were born eleven children, namely: John, William, Clayburn Jones and Elizabeth are deceased; Jane is living in Morgan county, Illinois; Sarah and Mary, twins, are deceased; the subject; Robert lives in Morgan county, Illinois; Richard and James K. Polk are deceased.

Isaac R. Bennett, the subject of this review, received the meager education afforded the children of pioneer times in the subscription schools. He and his brother, Clayburn Jones, purchased the old home place and lived on it until 1877, when the subject came to Gibson county, and, March 10, 1864, was married to Nancy S. Lathom, of Patoka township, born October 26, 1843, the daughter of Jonathan and Elenore (Brown) Lathom, her father born July 9, 1805, in Prince William county, Virginia, and her mother born in September, 1804, in Caswell county, North Carolina. Jonathan Lathom came to Indiana with his father, William, in 1809, and the family entered land near Oakland City. Mrs. Lathom's parents arrived in this county in 1825, and the parents of the subject's wife were married in October, 1827. William Lathom had a farm two miles north of Patoka which was originally covered with heavy timber. This was cleared and made into a good home place. William married Nancy Norman, and both are long since deceased, he passing away at his daughter's home north of Princeton, and she on the home place. Their children were: Ollie, killed by the Indians at Vincennes, Indiana; Elenore, Mrs. Bennett's mother; Isephena, the wife of John Hargrove, of this county; Elizabeth, the wife of Hudson Brown, of Patoka township; Polly Ann was first married to a Mr. Hodgpath and then to John Key and they lived in Patoka township; Nancy married William Kirk and lived near Hazleton.

Elenore (Brown) Lathom was a daughter of James Brown, of Caswell county, North Carolina, who came to Gibson county in 1825, and followed agriculture in Patoka township. His children were: Millie, who married Clark Hargrove and lives near Oakland City; Elenore, Mrs. Bennett's

mother; Hudson, who lives on the old home place in Patoka township and was first married to Elizabeth Lathom and then to Caroline Utter.

The children of Jonathan and Elenore (Brown) Lathom were: William J., born July 17, 1828, married and was a merchant and farmer in Morgan county, Illinois. His second wife was Jane Bennett, who lives in Morgan county, Illinois, he being deceased; Elizabeth and another daughter died in infancy; James Colman, born February 20, 1830, was a farmer in Gibson county. He married Julia Davis, of Morgan county, Illinois, and is now deceased; Jonathan died in his nineteenth year; Isephena, born in December, 1838, married Barney Morrison and lived in Center township, Gibson county; Sarah Ellen, born February 3, 1842, married James Lownsdale and lived first in Pike county and later in Center township, Gibson county, both now being deceased; Nancy was born October 20, 1844; George Norman, born August 21, 1846, married Sallie Welborn, both deceased; Richard N. died at the age of seven.

The subject and wife have been the parents of four children, namely: (1) Mary Elenore was born February 5, 1865, and married John Hitch, a merchant of Princeton, this union resulting in the birth of four children: Robert, born February 14, 1891; George, born October 24, 1892; Bennett, born November 7, 1893, and died in February, 1913; Pauline, deceased; (2) Jonathan Lathom was born March 9, 1867, and is an engineer on the Southern railroad at Princeton. He married Mary J. Sutton and they have had three children: Maurice was born July 13, 1888; Mabel was born June 4, 1890; Mary was born June 21, 1901, and died February 8, 1907. (3) Christina N. was born October 9, 1875, and is the wife of J. W. Cunningham, a farmer, now retired and living in Princeton, who is referred to elsewhere in this work. (4) James Elmer was born July 30, 1878. For years he was employed with the Southern railroad, but is now a motorman in Cincinnati. He married Jennie Robinson.

Before Mrs. Bennett's father married he carried brick in the construction of the old seminary building, receiving twenty-five cents a day and saving this money with a view of getting married. He followed farming all his life and was well known and respected in his community. As a young man he entered government land south of Francisco in Center township, and erected a log cabin with no door and a stick chimney and fireplace. He took a lot of young pigs to raise on the place, but they were carried off by bears. He was a member of the General Baptist church and a staunch Republican, having served as assessor for nine years.

After their marriage Isaac R. Bennett and his wife first lived in Morgan county, Illinois, but in 1877 sold their land there and removed to Patoka township, Gibson county, Indiana, where they farmed until August, 1911. At that time they came to Princeton and located at their present residence at 611 North Hart street, still, however, owning their farm and renting it.

In his political belief, Mr. Bennett has always given his support to the Democratic party, while in religious matters, he is a member of the Reformed Baptist church.

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### GEORGE STRAIN.

George Strain, who, after a long, busy and useful career, is now living retired in Fort Branch, was born at Patoka, Gibson county, Indiana, on March 4, 1851, the son of Rev. Thomas M. and Polly (Lagrange) Strain. When Thomas M. Strain was but a lad his father was killed by a tree falling on him. The subject's maternal grandfather was Erin Lagrange. Thomas M. Strain was reared in Gibson county, remaining on the homestead until attaining mature years. He was reared in the Presbyterian faith, and after professing religion he joined the Baptist church, of which his wife was a member. In that body he was ordained to the ministry, in which he was actively engaged for many years, having preached near his home farm and at Princeton. In September, 1852, he opened a store at Fort Branch, in partnership with his brother-in-law, Charles Harrington, and at the same time continued his ministerial duties. He cleared a place in the grove, constructing such seats as was possible under the conditions then existing, and continued this as a religious meeting place for many years, or until the old red school house was built, at which the different denominations met, and where the Protestant churches of that section were first started. He was successful in his mercantile enterprise, and also engaged in the buying and shipping of pork, having a small packing house, the products of which he mostly shipped to New Orleans on flat-boats. The partnership continued a number of years, when he bought Mr. Harrington's interest and conducted the business alone for a number of years. He was widely known as a successful business man, upright citizen, and enjoyed the generous respect and esteem of his fellow citizens, and was looked up to as an authority, possessing rare judgment and foresight. He was a leader in the Baptist denomination, being a pioneer of the faith in his community, and the early church in

this section is much indebted to his earnest and energetic efforts in its behalf. He was a self-taught man, and later taught school, and in after years was a man of good education and a great Bible student, a convincing speaker and able man. Late in life his eyesight failed, and his death occurred in July, 1906, at the age of eighty-nine years. Of the family of six children born to Thomas M. and Polly Strain, George, the immediate subject of this sketch, was the youngest. He passed his youthful years in Fort Branch, where he graduated from the high school and then engaged in farming, in which he continued for several years, or until his health failed, when he came to Fort Branch and engaged with his brother in business. Later he bought the latter's interest and continued the business until his retirement after twenty-six years' steady employment as a merchant, and with fair success.

On April 14, 1886, he married Mrs. Mary Wingate, of Gibson county, the daughter of Amosie D. Pioneer, a man of prominence in the community, who served as probate judge for twelve years, and was a justice of the peace for many years, being known widely throughout the country as Squire Foster. He was the owner of a good farm in Patoka township, where he lived with his family. Mr. and Mrs. Strain are members of the Baptist church, to which they give a liberal support. Fraternally, Mr. Strain is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, being a past grand of his lodge and a delegate to the Grand Lodge. He is also a member of the Tribe of Ben-Hur. The children born to Thomas M. and Polly Strain are as follows: Louisa, the wife of Dr. William R. Genung, who is represented elsewhere in this work; Lucinda, the widow of Samuel Sands, of Indianapolis; A. F. and Sylvester, who are partners in business at Fort Branch; Andrew J., who died in 1909, at the age of fifty-eight years, and George, the immediate subject of this sketch.

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### JOHN L. BROWN.

The history of the loyal sons and representative citizens of Gibson county would not be complete should the name that heads this review be omitted. When the fierce fire of rebellion was raging throughout the Southland, threatening to destroy the Union, he responded with patriotic fervor to the call for volunteers and in some of the bloodiest battles for which that great war was noted proved his loyalty to the government he loved so well. During a useful life in the region where he lives he has labored diligently to promote the interests of the people, working earnestly and with little regard for his



MR. AND MRS. JOHN L. BROWN.





personal advancement or ease. He has been devoted to the public welfare and in all of his relations his highest ambitions have been to benefit the community and advance its standard of citizenship.

John L. Brown, the son of David and Elizabeth (Kindle) Brown, was born October 2, 1844, five miles southwest of Princeton, Indiana. David Brown was a native of Harrison county, this state, and was born in 1808. Upon reaching the years of his majority he came to Gibson county, where he bought a farm for eight dollars per acre. This he cleared of timber and drained the swamps and otherwise improved it until, when he was ready to retire from active farming, it was well worth eighty dollars an acre, which his son paid him for it, and it is now recognized as one of the best farms in the county. Elizabeth Kindle, the first wife of David Brown, was also a native of Harrison county, and her death occurred when the subject of this sketch was about five years of age. There were six children by this marriage, William K., deceased, who married Frances Polk, was a carpenter, and was also in the army. He was a minister of the Gospel in California for many years, and was the father of one child, James E., who married Dices Ann Summers, who died in Oklahoma in 1913, leaving a family of seven children, William, Perry, Charles, John, Anna, Ollie and one who died at the age of seven years; Mrs. Eliza Tichenor, deceased; Mrs. Sarah Johnson, deceased; Jacob A., who died at the age of sixteen, and John L., the subject of this review. After the death of his first wife in 1849, David Brown married Elizabeth Stroud in 1852. She had four children, Lewis, deceased; Thomas, deceased; Mrs. Mary Woods and Mrs. Cassie Williams, deceased.

John L. Brown spent his early life on the farm and helped his father clear the heavy timber from off the land. When the Civil war broke out, John was only seventeen years of age, but he was fired with all the enthusiasm of youth and longed to throw his fortunes with the companies which were being recruited from his county. He did not succeed in getting enrolled among the first to leave the county, but in 1863 he enlisted in Company F, One Hundred and Twentieth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, for a period of three years. His first service was in southeastern Tennessee and from there he followed Sherman through Georgia to Atlanta and thence to the sea. He displayed unusual heroism and bravery in many battles in which he took part, and fortunately was never wounded with the exception of being badly bruised when a bullet grazed his shoulder. He enlisted as a private, but was promoted to the rank of a corporal on account of bravery and later was made a sergeant and was mustered out as a sergeant in July, 1865, at Indianapolis.

After being mustered out of the service, Mr. Brown returned to his home county and worked on his father's farm for several years, at the same time saving his money and investing it in land. In the course of a few years he had accumulated a farm of two hundred and eighty acres, which is known as one of the finest farms in the township, if not in the county. In 1909 he built a large, modern barn, having lost his former barn by fire. There is no more progressive farmer in the county than he, and he makes it a point to keep well posted on all the latest agricultural methods. He always buys the latest improved farm machinery, and is thereby enabled to get the best results from his land. He is one of the most congenial, warm-hearted and best loved men in the county, and is known everywhere as a man absolutely square in all his business dealings. He has always been a believer in the Golden Rule and carries it out in all of his transactions with his fellow men. He can get more corn and wheat per acre than any other farmer in the county and is universally conceded to have the best success in raising grain. He also keeps live stock and has been very successful in raising horses and swine.

Mr. Brown has been twice married, first to Sarah Jane Clark, on January 17, 1869, the daughter of Jordan and Rachel (Mounts) Clark. Her father was a farmer and a native of this county. Her mother also was a native of this county, and both are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Clark were the parents of a large family of children: Eliza, who married George W. Woods, and has two children, Carl and Hazel; Mrs. Woods teaches in the district schools of the township; Lizzie, the wife of Madison Knowles, a farmer in Center township, this county, has one child, Ovilla; Arthur, who married Belle Tichenor, is a farmer near King's Station, Patoka township, and they have two children, Eunice and Mildred; Forney, who married Otto Hollis, a stock buyer living near Princeton, and they have three children, Barton, Jones and Herschell; Eva, the wife of Harvey McCarthy, a farmer near Princeton, has two children, Earl and Paul; Harvey married Amy Collins, and is now operating the homestead farm of eighty acres, and has one child, Melvin; two children who died in infancy.

On February 20, 1895, John L. Brown married Melissa Clark, the daughter of William and Margaret (Stone) Clark. William Clark was a native of this county and a General Baptist preacher, and his death occurred on November 8, 1899, in Owensville. His wife was also a native of this county and died in Owensville in 1905. The second marriage was blessed with three children, Zella, who died at the early age of three months; Arvel and Darwin, both of whom are still at home with their parents.

Although Mr. Brown has been a lifelong Republican, he has never sought any political preferment at the hands of his party. He takes an intelligent interest in the great political questions of the day and is able to discuss them intelligently. He and his wife have long been members of the White General Baptist church. He has been a member for more than fifty years of this denomination and for a number of years was treasurer of the church, but resigned on account of his age. He is still a trustee of the denomination. Mr. Brown is one of those progressive, self-made men who are thoroughly in harmony with the spirit of the advanced age in which he lives. In all his business affairs he has conducted them in such a manner that stamps him as a man who has a natural aptitude for successful management. He has not permitted the accumulation of his comfortable competence to affect in any way his actions toward those less fortunate than he, being a most sympathetic and broad-minded man and one who has a host of warm and admiring friends throughout the county.

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### JOSEPH D. HUSSEY.

Among the oldest and most highly respected families of Gibson county, Indiana, is the Hussey family, which came to this county in 1821. Richard Hussey, the founder of the family bearing his name in Indiana and other states in the West, was born in Lebanon county, Maine, May 24, 1789, and died April 15, 1851. He was married on October 4, 1811, to Alpha Mills, of Kennebec county, Maine, her birth occurring on January 27, 1791, and her death on May 29, 1841. This worthy couple reared a large family of thirteen children: Elizabeth M., born July 9, 1812, died April 27, 1878; Julia Page, born January 22, 1814; Zazhariah, born October 25, 1815; James Madison, born June 8, 1817, in Kennebec county, Maine; George B., born May 17, 1819, in Washington county, Ohio; Ansel Alexander Hamilton, born November 16, 1821; John Hibbard, born July 26, 1822, in Gibson county, Indiana; Clara, born March 19, 1824; Charles Wellington, born May 18, 1826; Elizabeth Ann, born April 11, 1828; Richard Perry, born April 4, 1830; Martha M., born March 24, 1833; Alpha Louisa, born October 15, 1835. In 1817 Richard Hussey and wife, with four children, left Kennebec county, Maine, and traveled overland to Washington county, Ohio. Here he followed the trade of a cabinet maker for four years and in 1821 the family left Ohio and came to Gibson county, Indiana, locating five miles east

of Princeton in Center township. Here Richard Hussey and his sons put up a cabin and blacksmith shop, and here the family lived for several years, the mother's death occurring on this farm. Mr. Hussey's shop, in which he did both iron and wood work, was the center of a large community and the people from far and near came to him to have their work done. In this way he formed a large acquaintance and probably no man in the county was better known in his day than Richard Hussey.

James Madison Hussey, the son of Richard Hussey, and the father of the subject of this review, was one of the children who were born in Maine and left that state when he was an infant. He received the meager schooling which was afforded in Gibson county in the twenties, and since he was the oldest child in the family, he early took up the burden of helping to support the family. He remained on the home farm helping his father in his shop until he was married; then he rented a part of his father's farm. James M. Hussey married Sarah Patterson, of Allegheny City, Pennsylvania, a daughter of Robert and Rebecca (Wilson) Patterson. Sarah Patterson had come from Pennsylvania to Xenia, Ohio, when a small child with her parents, and later came with them to Gibson county, Indiana, where they settled in Center township, near the Hussey homestead. There were four of the Patterson family: James, who lived in Princeton; Harriett, who married a Mr. Shaw and went back to Pennsylvania, where her death occurred; Sarah, the wife of James M. Hussey; and one who died in infancy. To James M. Hussey and wife were born eight children: Henry W., who lives in Canada and married Mary J. Harbison; Robert Dale, who married Eliza J. McClellan, was in the Civil war and served three years in Company G, One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry. After his death, in 1872, his widow married L. B. Wallon, a druggist at Francisco, Indiana; Richard Lewis, whose sketch is given elsewhere in this volume; Franklin C., deceased; Ella Maria, the wife of Lon C. Dilday, of Princeton; James M., who married Isabelle Ingram, is a farmer in this county; Joseph Devin, the immediate subject of this sketch, and Arabella, the widow of Isaac N. Eby, of Princeton. He was a farmer, and died December 8, 1898, leaving his widow and two children, Earl and Allan Dale.

James M. Hussey, the father of Joseph D., enlisted in the Civil war in Company B, Sixty-fifth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, on August 2, 1862. As first lieutenant he helped to raise two companies. Shortly after going to the front he died, and in November, 1862, his body was brought from Henderson, Kentucky, and buried in the cemetery near Princeton with

all the honors of war. His widow lived at the old home place until her death, in 1898. She was of a deeply religious temperament and an earnest worker in church circles. She was a consistent and devoted member of the United Presbyterian church for fifty-five years, and a woman who was loved and respected by all who knew her.

Joseph D. Hussey was born in Center township, Gibson county, Indiana, August 1, 1859, and received a very limited education in the common schools of his home township. He continued to reside on the home farm until he became of age, when he removed to Francisco and engaged in business in that place. Three years later he removed to Princeton, where he continued in business until 1910, when he retired. In 1906 he bought his splendid home on North Seminary street, where he is now living a retired life, surrounded by all the comforts and conveniences of modern life.

Mr. Hussey was married in 1883 to Jemima E. McFetridge, of Center township, in this county, and she died in August, 1887, leaving one child, Sarah Mabel. The daughter married Eugene B. Smith, a wireless operator for the United States government at Porto Rico during the Spanish-American war, and now lives at Belleview, Ohio, where he is engaged in the dairy business. Mr. and Mrs. Smith are the parents of two children, Katherine Elizabeth and Joseph Eugene. Jemima E. McFetridge, the first wife of Mr. Hussey, was the daughter of Scott and Sarah (Johnson) McFetridge, an old family of Gibson county. They came to this county in 1821, before the Hussey family. The Johnson family, headed by David Johnson, a soldier of the War of 1812 and a hero of the battle of Tippecanoe, came to this county before 1800.

Mr. Hussey was married a second time to Mary Roselle Langford, in March, 1894, and to this marriage was born one daughter, Josephine Madge, who is still with her father. The second wife of Mr. Hussey, who died in February, 1900, was the daughter of John and Sarah (Young) Langford, of Warrick county, Indiana. The Langfords are of English ancestry, and Richard Langford, the grandfather of Mrs. Hussey, was one of the earliest settlers in the state, arriving in the vicinity of Evansville in 1815.

On April 2, 1906, Mr. Hussey married Emma J. (Westfall) Hochhalter, the daughter of George and Jacobena (Brigius) Westfall. Her parents were both natives of Germany and Mrs. Hussey was born before her parents came to this country. She was eleven years of age when her parents came to America and settled in Warrick county in this state. Mr. Westfall was a blacksmith by trade and at the opening of the Civil war enlisted in the Union

army and served four years at the front. Emma J. Westfall was married on March 30, 1882, to Phillip Hochhalter, a cooper, of Newburg, Warrick county. He died February 13, 1891, leaving his widow with one son, Louis C Hochhalter, who married Emily Webber. Louis and his wife have one son, Harold, and live in Evansville.

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### BENJAMIN F. BENSON.

It is the farmer who makes it possible for men in any other occupation to live. Farming was the original occupation of man, and it is the only profession which could exist independently of any other. Indeed, every other occupation is dependent upon the farmer. The products of the farm have made our railroads what they are today, and the great bulk of manufacturing is made necessary because of the farmer's needs. The people of the city could not live a week without the farmer's products. He holds not only the purse strings of the nation, but even the very life itself of the people. For this reason the farmer has in reality the most important profession of all. Gibson county has as fine farms and as good farmers as can be found anywhere in the state, and among them is the subject of this review.

Benjamin F. Benson is the son of Sylvester and Nancy (Ewing) Benson, and was born February 3, 1871, about four miles northwest of Owensville. His father was a native of this county, being born on his father's farm July 10, 1823. He was a very influential farmer and citizen, and one of the most widely known men in the county. He took an active part in Republican politics and was elected to the office of county commissioner for three terms. He was president of the board of county commissioners at the time the first court house in Gibson county was built, and by his integrity and devotion to public duty he rendered valuable service at that time. He took a great deal of pride in the Benson family history and at one time wrote the family history, but unfortunately lost it by fire at the time his residence was burned. He is now living with his daughter, Mrs. William Scott. Some time ago he suffered a paralytic stroke, which has rendered him speechless and deaf and unable to finish his family history. He was the son of William and Margaret Benson, his grandfather being a native of Ireland. The mother of the subject of this sketch was a native of Dubois county, Indiana, and died March 12, 1898. Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Benson were the parents of eight children: Columbus; James; Benjamin F., the subject of this sketch; John;

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Luella, who died at the age of three; Luther; Mrs. Margaret Johnson, and Mrs. Lillie Scott.

Benjamin F. Benson was united in marriage on June 17, 1896, to Fannie Cleveland, daughter of John and Mary (Polk) Cleveland. Her father was a son of George Cleveland, a native of Vanderburg county, this state, where he spent his boyhood days before coming to Gibson county. He has always followed the occupation of a farmer and has ninety-six acres of excellent farming land near Owensville. He was born in 1844 and died in 1899. His wife was also a native of this county and died at the home of her son-in-law, Benjamin F. Benson, in 1906. Mr. and Mrs. John Cleveland were the parents of four children: Roger; Fannie, the wife of the subject of this review; Mrs. Flossie Lee and Charles.

Benjamin F. Benson spent his boyhood days on the farm and received the best education which the district schools of his locality afforded. He has devoted his whole time and energies to his farming interests and now owns two hundred and fourteen acres of excellent farming land in this county. He keeps well posted on all modern methods of scientific farming, and in this way has become one of the most successful farmers of the county. In addition to his general farming he has made a specialty of raising live stock for the market, and takes a justifiable pride in his dwelling, fine home, barn and outbuildings, and has one of the best improved farms in this section of the state.

Mr. and Mrs. Benson have been blessed with six children, three of whom died in infancy. There are three sons still at home with their parents, Ronald, Burnell and William. It is needless to say that these boys are receiving every advantage which modern education can give them, and that they will be well prepared to take their places in the affairs of the community later on.

Although Mr. Benson has always affiliated with the Republican party, he has never sought any political office, but has been content to devote all of his time and energies to the management of his farming interests. He and his wife are both loyal members of the General Baptist church and are interested in all the activities of that denomination. Mr. Benson is a deacon in the church. He is a man of modest and unassuming disposition, a fine type of the reliable, self-made American; a friend to the poor, charitable to the faults of his neighbors, and always ready to unite with them in every good work. He is a man who in every respect merits the high esteem in which he is universally held.



## JAMES W. COCKRUM.

A review of the life of the honored subject of this review must of necessity be brief and general in its character. To enter fully into the interesting details of the career of J. W. Cockrum, touching the struggles of his early manhood and the successes of his later years, would far transcend the limits of this article. He has filled a large place in the ranks of the public-spirited citizens and successful newspaper men of his day, and that he has done his part well cannot be gainsaid, for his record has been such as has gained for him the commendation and approval of his fellows. His career has been a long, busy and useful one and he has contributed much to the material, civic and moral advancement of the community, while his admirable qualities of head and heart and the straightforward, upright course of his daily life has won for him the esteem and confidence of the circles in which he has moved.

James W. Cockrum, president of the J. W. Cockrum Printing Company and editor of the *Oakland City Journal*, is a native son of Gibson county, Indiana, having been born in Oakland City on August 22, 1861. He is the son of Col. W. M. and Lucretia (Harper) Cockrum, whose respective families are among the oldest and best known in this section of Indiana. W. M. Cockrum was born in Oakland City and his wife was a native of Pike county, Indiana. James W. Cockrum received his elementary education in the common schools and in the Oakland City high school, where he graduated in 1887. He then went on the road as a commercial traveler for a school supply concern and, being eminently successful in this line, he was induced to organize the Indiana School Furnishing Company of Oakland City, which from the start was a success and from the demands of this business Mr. Cockrum, in 1891, drifted into the printing business. In 1893 he established the *Oakland City Journal*, a weekly newspaper, which met with popular favor from the start, so that one year later he changed it to a semi-weekly issue. At that time two other newspapers were in the local field, but both have since retired. As editor, Mr. Cockrum wielded a forceful and trenchant pen, having that genuine instinct for news which characterizes successful newspaper men. The J. W. Cockrum Printing Company, which is incorporated, is well equipped, and makes a specialty of commercial and bank printing, catering particularly to the latter trade and doing an extensive business all over the United States. Mr. Cockrum has given his special attention to this work and is numbered among the successful editors and publishers of southwestern Indiana. He has long been a forceful and influential factor in this locality, not only in business, but also





JAMES W. COCKRUM.



in public and civic life, and is numbered among the distinctively representative men of this section of the state.

Politically, an ardent Republican, Mr. Cockrum has long been numbered among the leaders of his party in Indiana, and has achieved distinctive recognition because of his ability and activity. He was appointed by Governor Durbin a member of the Louisiana Exposition commission from the first district, which handled an appropriation of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars for the purpose of giving Indiana proper representation at the World's Fair. He was chosen secretary of the commission and had supervision of the detail work in connection with the Indiana exhibit. In 1904 Mr. Cockrum was elected secretary of the National Editorial Association of the United States, serving four years, and rendering efficient service while acting in the interest of the association. He has also served as president and secretary at different times of the Indiana Republican Editorial Association and as president and secretary of the Southern Indiana Press Association.

Fraternally, Mr. Cockrum has long been active in the interests of Freemasonry, having taken all of the degrees of the York Rite, including that of Knight Templar, and thirty-two degrees of the Scottish Rite, being a member of the consistory at Indianapolis. He is also a member of Hadi Temple of the Mystic Shrine at Evansville. In the Knights of Pythias, Mr. Cockrum has achieved distinctive honors, having been past chancellor of Chevalier Lodge and has been a member of the grand lodge of Indiana for twelve years, serving on important committees during this period. Religiously, he is a member of the General Baptist church, to which he gives earnest support.

On September 24, 1891, Mr. Cockrum was married to Agnes Pritchett, who was born at Fort Branch, Gibson county, but who at the time of her marriage was living at Carmi, Illinois. She was the daughter of Elisha L. and Martha E. Pritchett. To this union have been born two daughters, Dorothy Dale and one deceased. The Cockrum residence in Oakland City is one of the finest and most artistic homes in the community and here the spirit of true and old fashioned hospitality is always in evidence, the home being a favorite gathering place for the many friends of the family.

In such a man as Mr. Cockrum there is special satisfaction in offering in their life records justification for issuing a biographical compendium such as the one in hand, not necessarily that the career of men of his type has been such as to gain them wide reputation or the plaudits of men, but that they have been true to the trusts reposed in them and shown such attributes of character

as entitle them to the regard of all and have been useful in their respective careers of action, at the same time winning the confidence and good will of all with whom they have come in contact.

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### ALFRED PRITCHETT.

No other county in Indiana furnished braver men for the Civil War than did Gibson county. This state sent over two hundred thousand men to the front during that memorable conflict and Gibson county contributed its quota without any difficulty, meeting every call of Governor Morton with a promptness which bespoke well for the patriotic zeal of her sons. They left their homes to save their country and hundreds of them sacrificed their lives that the Stars and Stripes might continue to wave over a united nation. We cannot forget that they fought a brave fight for human liberty, and that they deserve all the praise which can be given them. They are fast answering the last roll call, and within a few years we can only honor their memory. It seems eminently fitting in this volume to set forth the lives of these gallant veterans who are still living. Among the brave boys in blue who enlisted from Gibson county there is none who is more worthy of an honored place in this volume than the subject of this sketch.

Alfred Pritchett, one of the best beloved citizens of this county, was born three miles southeast of Owensville, July 14, 1841, the son of Elisha and Elizabeth (Rutledge) Pritchett. Elisha was a native of Kentucky, and came to this county with his parents when a young man, his father having entered land in this county when it was all heavily timbered and generally swampy. He followed the occupation of a farmer all his life and died in this county in 1853. His wife, Elizabeth Rutledge, to whom he was married in 1821, was a native of Tennessee, coming to this county with an elder brother when she was eight years of age, her parents having died when she was four years of age. A few years later she and her brother made the trip on horseback to this county in 1811. Her death occurred November 11, 1897, at a ripe old age. Her mother died at the age of ninety-one years, leaving a family of ten children, all of whom are living but two. To Mr. and Mrs. Elisha Pritchett were born twelve children: John, deceased; Absalom, deceased; William H., deceased; James J.; Mrs. Serelda Richards; Pressley, deceased; Mrs. Polly J. West; Charles, deceased; Mrs. Eliza Adams; Alfred,

the immediate subject of this sketch: Mrs. Elizabeth Witherspoon and Mrs. Sarah Mounts.

Alfred Pritchett has spent all of his life in this county with the exception of three years' service in the Civil War. He received the best education which the district schools of that day afforded, and has always been interested in the intellectual welfare of his community. When the news of the fall of Fort Sumter was flashed throughout the country, he was filled with the same patriotic fervor which fired the hearts of hundreds and thousands of other young men of the North. When a company was being organized in the fall of 1862 in his county, he enlisted in Company C as a private on September 13th, his company being in the Forty-second Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry. The first captain of his company was Captain French, who was succeeded later during the war by Captain Frank Emery. His first service was in Tennessee, and he later followed Sherman from Chattanooga down through the Georgia campaign to Savannah, taking part in all the engagements in that state; from Savannah his company was with Sherman on his northward march through the Carolinas and was present at the time General Johnson surrendered to General Sherman, in May, 1865, in North Carolina. During the last three months he was detailed as one of an escort to General Davis and served in several minor engagements under his command. Although he was present and took part in many severe engagements during his service, he was fortunate in escaping without being wounded and came out at the end of his service with his health unimpaired. However, in later years he has become blind, but is bearing this terrible affliction with great fortitude and courage.

After being mustered out at Indianapolis, in July, 1865, he returned to his home in Gibson county. He was first married, in 1867, to Katherine Summers, daughter of Richey Summers. Her death occurred in 1871, leaving two children, Aubrey, who is now deceased, and Mrs. Anna Alcorn.

Simeon Alcorn, the husband of Anna (Pritchett) Alcorn, was born November 23, 1863, three miles east of Owensville, the son of Elisha and Mary (Martin) Alcorn. Elisha Alcorn was a native of Vanderburg county, this state, and early in life was left an orphan and was reared by his grandmother Marvel, spending his boyhood days with his grandparents. He came to this county at the age of twenty-one years and settled on a farm about two miles southeast of Fort Branch, later selling this farm and buying a tract of land near McGrary Station. He continued the occupation of a farmer throughout his life, his death occurring in 1901. His wife, Mary Martin,

was also a native of Vanderburg county and her death occurred in 1910. To these parents were born eight children: Orphia, deceased; Mrs. Francis Elizabeth Sides; Sarah, deceased; Thomas M.; Simeon; Mrs. Lucinda Sides; Mrs. Tilda Ellen Peacock and Mrs. Mary Alice Gibson. Simeon Alcorn was married October 6, 1887, to Anna Louisa Pritchett, daughter of the subject of this sketch, and is one of the substantial, progressive farmers of the township, having two hundred and thirteen acres of well-improved land under a high state of cultivation. Mr. and Mrs. Alcorn are the parents of one child, Zella, who is the wife of Walter Simmons, a farmer of this township. Mr. and Mrs. Alcorn are both members of the Methodist Episcopal church and he is a trustee and steward of that denomination, and both of them take an active part in church work.

Alfred Pritchett was married the second time to Fannie Yeager, on July 28, 1875. She was a daughter of Nicholas and Julina (Roberts) Yeager. Mr. Yeager was a native of this county, his parents being Daniel and Charity (Smith) Yeager, who were pioneers of the county. Nicholas Yeager kept a store in Owensville with his brother-in-law, William Crawford, for many years, but later purchased a farm east of Owensville, which he continued to operate until his death, which occurred February 22, 1892. His wife was also a native of this county, her birth occurring December 6, 1828, four miles north of Owensville. She was a daughter of Thomas Roberts. Mr. and Mrs. Yeager were married April 9, 1848, and were the parents of seven children, William H., Mrs. Fannie Pritchett, Franklin, deceased, Mrs. Sarah Ellen Emmerson, Mrs. Cordelia Pritchett, who died in Arkansas in 1912; Daniel H., who died at the early age of two years, and George B. To Mr. Pritchett's second union were born two children, Eva, deceased, and Lester, who married Nellie Stone. Lester is a promising young farmer of this county.

Although Mr. Pritchett has lived the allotted three score and ten, he is still active and is managing his well-improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres. He has been a follower of the best agricultural methods and keeps well posted on the newest ideas in scientific farming. Mr. and Mrs. Pritchett exemplify their Christianity in their every-day life and despite the fact that he has lost his sight, he continues to be cheerful, bearing his affliction with that fortitude which characterizes the true Christian believer. No more conscientious man ever lived in the county than Mr. Pritchett, and in all his business transactions he has so conducted them that he has won the respect and admiration of all with whom he has come in contact. All honor to this

gallant old veteran, who now, in the twilight of his long and useful career, is patiently waiting the final roll call.

He has been a life-long member of the Blythe Chapel, Methodist Episcopal church, and still takes a very active part in church affairs. For many years he has been the class leader and his inspirational talks have been of untold value to the members of the church. His life has been a shining light to all the community, and no one can view his career without seeing that he is one of God's noblemen.

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### JAMES ALLEN SMITH.

Among the successful, self-made men of Gibson county, whose efforts and influence have contributed to the material upbuilding of the community, James Allen Smith occupies a conspicuous place. Being ambitious from the first, but surrounded with none too favorable environment, his early years were not especially promising, but resolutely facing the future, he gradually surmounted the difficulties in his way, and in the course of time he has risen to a prominent position in the agricultural circles of his community. In doing this he has won the confidence and esteem of those with whom he has come in contact, either in a business or social way, and for years has stood as one of the representative citizens of the locality honored by his citizenship. His life and labors are worthy, because they have contributed to a proper understanding of life and its problems. The strongest characters in our national history have come from the ranks of the self-made men, to whom adversity acts as an impetus for unfaltering effort, and from this class has come the subject of this review. He has not permitted himself to follow the rut in a blind way, but has studied and experimented in various agricultural methods, and has thus secured the best returns from enterprising effort. His life has been such as to elicit just praise from those who know him best, owing to the fact that he has always been loyal to the trust imposed upon him and has been upright in his dealings with his fellow men, at the same time lending his support to the advancement of any cause for the welfare of the community.

James Allen Smith, one of the most prominent farmers in Gibson county, was born September 12, 1849, five miles northeast of Owensville. His parents were John Martin and Elizabeth Jane (Stone) Smith. John M. was a native of Adair county, Kentucky, his birth having occurred in that place on September 30, 1827, and was a son of David and Eliza Smith. His father emigrated from Kentucky to this state and settled in Gibson county on a

farm, on which he lived until his death, which occurred at the age of eighty-one. John M. Smith was married three times. His first marriage was to Elizabeth Jane Stone, October 28, 1847, and to this union were born six children: James A., the immediate subject of this sketch; Nancy Jane, who married D. B. Montgomery, a farmer of Union township; Martha Alice, who was the wife of George Mangrum, died on September 12, 1872; Milton Bird, who died at the age of fourteen; Henry Wilson married Matilda Mauck, and Willis Clinton, who married Martha Spore. John M. Smith's second marriage was to Mary Elizabeth Haren, December 18, 1870, and she died June 5, 1897. To this union there were born two children, Elnora, who died in infancy, and Iva Minda, the wife of Noble Douglas. Mr. Smith's third marriage was to Margaret Erwin, March 29, 1898. Mr. Smith's death occurred in Owensville on February 23, 1908, leaving his widow, who is still living at Princeton in this county. He continued in the active management of his farm until he was seventy years of age, when he retired and moved to Owensville. He was always very much interested in the church activities of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, and was an elder in that church many years before his death.

James Allen Smith spent his boyhood days on the homestead farm, doing all the ordinary work which falls to the lot of the farmer's boy. He attended the common schools of his neighborhood and also the high school at Owensville. He then taught school in the township for four years before his marriage. After his marriage, on March 23, 1877, to Lydia Mauck, the daughter of Samuel and Eliza (Yeager) Mauck, he purchased the farm which he still owns. His wife's father, Samuel Mauck, was a native of this county and followed the occupation of a farmer until his death, October 10, 1896. His wife, Eliza Yeager, was also a native of this county and died in 1860. Mr. and Mrs. Mauck were the parents of five children: Maria, deceased; Miranda, who married James A. Jones, now deceased; Lydia, wife of the subject of this sketch; Henry and Thompson.

Mr. Smith has one hundred and sixty acres of excellent farming land, practically all of which is under cultivation at the present time. His farm is well stocked with up-to-date farming implements, and has been brought by his careful management to a high state of cultivation. He has never had any aspirations in a political line, although he has always taken an active interest in the principles of the Prohibitionist party. Some years ago he was township trustee for one year and filled this position to the entire satisfaction of the township. He has been uniformly successful in all his business trans-



actions and is now one of the directors of the First National Bank of Owensville.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith are the parents of five children: Flora Letha, who married George Clark, a farmer near King's Station, in this county, and has two children, Gerald and Johnny Pauline, both of whom are still under the parental roof; Eliza Orela, who married Charles Dorsey, a hardware merchant of Poseyville, Indiana, has one daughter, Helen, who is at home with her parents; Hoyt Obra married Jessie Shannon and lives in Akron, Ohio, where he is employed as a sales manager; Lewis Roy, who died at the age of twenty, and Milton Byrd, who lives at home with his parents.

Mr. Smith and his wife are earnest and devoted members of the Cumberland Presbyterian church at Owensville, and Mr. Smith has been an elder in this church for several years. He has come into his present position by hard work and the exercise of honest business methods. His tireless energy and steady determination have won for him the unqualified confidence and esteem of all who know him.

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### HENRY MOWRER.

There are several hundred different occupations at the present time, but there is only one of all this number that is absolutely necessary to man's existence. The three things without which man cannot live are food, clothing and shelter, and it is the farmer who not only controls the food supply, but also holds the clothing products of the world in his hands. His is the only occupation which can exist independently of all others. An increasing number of our best farming men are taking agricultural courses in college, thereby fitting themselves the better for scientific farming. The profession has taken on increased dignity within the past few years and more and more of our young men are applying themselves to scientific farming. The farmer of today has the immense advantage of working with machinery which renders his work free from many of its former disadvantages. Gibson county has hundreds of splendid farmers and among them the subject of this sketch holds a worthy place.

Henry Mowrer, the second of four children born to Robert and Caroline (Ayers) Mowrer, was born March 22, 1865, on the Joe Heston farm, about four miles from Princeton, this county. Robert Mowrer was a native of

this county, his birth having occurred on December 25, 1832, near Owensville. He followed agricultural pursuits all his life, the last nine years of which were spent in Illinois, where his death occurred December 12, 1878. His wife was also a native of this county and died there January 21, 1879. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mowrer were the parents of four children: James T., who married Lizzie Teel, is an engineer at Macon, Georgia, and has two children, Hazel and Erwin; Nettie, who married Vinton Newell, an engineer of Macon, Georgia; Lucinda, the wife of George Land, lives in San Diego, California, and has three children, Henrietta, Marvin and Marion.

Henry Mowrer was united in marriage on August 7, 1890, to Ida Spore, the daughter of Julius and Mary (Clark) Spore. Her father was a native of this county, his birth having occurred on December 25, 1834, five miles north of Owensville. He continued active operations on his farm until about fifteen years before his death, which occurred on November 25, 1910, at Owensville. His wife was also a native of this county and died in Owensville, February 17, 1909. To them were born three children: Mary, the wife of Joseph Nettleton, a farmer living near Fort Branch, Indiana; Martha, the wife of W. C. Smith, a farmer living near Princeton, has three children, Velva, Nola and Blanche; Ida, the wife of the subject of this review.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Mowrer are the parents of eight children, all of whom are still under the parental roof: Carrie, Jessie, Vesper Julius, Doyl, Nora, Marie, Harold Robert and Gertrude Fern.

Henry Mowrer spent his boyhood days on the home farm, his parents living in this state until he was four years of age, at which time they moved to Illinois, where they both died. He continued to reside in Illinois for some years and then returned to Gibson county, where he has since remained. After his marriage, in 1890, he farmed the Spore farm for fifteen years, and then purchased the John M. Smith farm of eighty acres, where he now lives. He carries on a general system of farming and also raises considerable stock. Of late years he has been engaged in the dairy business and has been very successful along that line. He has one of the largest and best equipped barns and machine sheds in the township and has improved his farm until it is one of the best farms in the locality. Within the last few years he has used more than eleven hundred rods of woven wire fencing and put in an extensive system of drainage. He is known throughout the community as one of the most progressive and wide-awake farmers of the county. He has always been a hard worker and tireless energy has not been without its rewards in his case.

Although he is a Democrat in politics, he has never sought any political office, being satisfied to devote all of his time and attention to his farming interests. Fraternally, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and religiously, is a loyal and earnest member and trustee of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. His wife is a member of the General Baptist church, and both contribute liberally of their means to the support of their respective churches. The chief characteristics of Mr. Mowrer are his tireless energy, honesty of purpose and motive and every-day common sense, which has enabled him not only to advance his own interests, but also largely contribute to the moral and material advancement of the community honored by his residence.

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### JOHN W. TURNAGE.

It will always be a mark of distinction to have served in the Federal army during the great Civil War between the states. The old soldier will receive attention no matter where he goes if he will but make himself known, particularly if he puts on the old faded uniform. And when he passes away, which he will soon do, friends will pay him suitable eulogy for the sacrifices he made a half century ago on the battlefield or in the no less dreaded hospital. And ever afterward his descendants will revere his memory and take pride in recounting his services for his country in the hour of peril. The gentleman whose name initiates this paragraph is one of the old soldiers who went forth to fight to save the Union.

John W. Turnage was born March 9, 1840, in Shawneetown, Illinois, the son of Gardner and Julia Ann (Odam) Turnage. Gardner Turnage, the father, was a native of Memphis, Tennessee, and the mother of Owensburg, Kentucky, he dying in 1840 and his wife in 1848. They were the parents of two children, the subject, and James W. James W. died in 1897. He was a stationary engineer and lived in Washington, Daviess county, Indiana. He married Celia Ann Linder, who is also deceased, and they had one child, May, who married James Sertile, a contractor at Indianapolis.

The subject of this review went to live with his grandmother Odam as a boy, and had no chance to go to school. At the age of ten he went to live with an uncle, Willis Odam, at Covington, Fountain county, Indiana, and was with him until he reached his seventeenth year, when he went to work for himself in the woolen mills, continuing at this until 1860. He then went

to Haubstadt, Gibson county, and enlisted in the army on July 8, 1861, becoming a member of Company K, Twenty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, being mustered into the service of the Union army July 31, 1861. His regiment was sent to Jefferson City, Missouri, then to Springfield, and finally to Autville, where they wintered. In the spring of 1862 the regiment of which the subject was a member took part in the battle at Fort Donelson, were then at Fort Henry, Crump's Landing, and in the second day's battle at Shiloh. Marching to Gravel Ridge, they remained at that point for some time, and were then marched to Memphis, later going from there by boat to Helena, Arkansas, and up the Arkansas river and then up White river, engaging in the battles of Duval's Bluff and Arkansas Post. They were then ordered to Helena, crossed the Black river and returned to Helena, where they wintered. In the spring of 1862, on April 16, they were in the fighting around Vicksburg, and were almost continually engaged until July 4, 1863, being in the battles of Champion's Hill, Black River and Vicksburg, and going to Jackson, Tennessee, were in a second battle there, marching back to Vicksburg. By boat they proceeded to Port Hudson, Louisiana, and after a two days' stop, went on to New Orleans. After participating in the battle in Tash county, about eighty miles west of New Orleans, they returned to the Crescent City and spent the following winter. In the spring of 1864 they took part in the Red river campaign, then coming up the river to Alexandria, Mississippi, they built a dam across Red river to bar out gunboats and troop transports. They were then engaged in several skirmishes along the Red river and Old river and returned to New Orleans. Joining his regiment at Baton Rouge, the subject's enlistment expired July 31, 1864, and he started for home, coming by boat to Cairo, Illinois, and then proceeding to Indianapolis to be paid.

After having thus honorably and faithfully served his country, Mr. Turnage again took up the pursuits of private life. April 9, 1865, he was united in marriage to Anna Vail, of Hamilton county, Ohio, near Cincinnati, the daughter of James and Lydia Ann (Layton) Vail, both natives of Hamilton county, Indiana, where they were reared and married. The father of the subject's wife was a shoemaker by trade and in 1856 or 1857 went to Shelbyville, Illinois, where he worked at his trade and engaged in farming until his death, in 1870. His wife died December 10, 1842, and he was married a second time, his second wife being Sarah Marklin, of Ohio, who passed away in 1868. By his first marriage, Mrs. Turnage's father had four children: Peter, deceased, a farmer at Shelbyville, Illinois; Charles, deceased, a farmer

in Hamilton county, Ohio; Frank, deceased, a farmer in Effingham county, Illinois; the subject's wife. To his second marriage were born nine children, namely: Arthur L., who was born September 29, 1851, died young; Lunetta, born August 17, 1854, and living in Illinois; Adalesea, born November 29, 1857, died young; Alonzo, born September 10, 1859, also died in his infancy; Florence, born June 6, 1862; Oscar, born May 18, 1864, married Sophia Pfohl and is a barber in Princeton; Geneva, born December 7, 1866, married a Mr. Griffith, of Allendale, Illinois; Walter L. is a barber by trade, and is in Chicago, Illinois; Estella D., born May 31, 1872, is living in Illinois.

In 1864 Mr. Turnage went to Shelbyville, Illinois, and was employed in the woolen mill of the Hall Manufacturing Company until 1867, from there going to Haubstadt, Gibson county, and subsequently installed machinery in woolen mills at Evansville and New Harmony, afterward removing to King's Station, where he was engineer in the mill of A. J. Woods, then going to Fort Branch and installing an eight-run mill for Downey, Foster & Lewis, which he ran for several years. The subject later engaged in the implement business in Fort Branch with N. Beil & Company for three years, and then came to Princeton, where he was in the same line, forming the partnership of Riggs & Turnage, this firm existing for two years, and on the dissolution of the partnership Mr. Turnage, for a brief period, was with Martin Meyers in the same business. Selling out his interests, the subject took employment with the McCormick Harvester Company as a traveling representative, which he followed for three years, having the territory of Gibson and Pike counties and a part of Warrick county. In 1901 Mr. Turnage resigned his position and took employment with the Russell Company, selling threshing machinery until 1909, he being general agent in charge of fifty-two counties in this state and Illinois. Since 1909 the subject's health has been poor, and he has lived in retirement.

To the subject and wife have been born eight children, namely: Emma Bell married Alfred Sutton, of Princeton, a butcher and farmer, and they have one son, Willis; Mittie married W. S. Swisher, a carpenter, of Indianapolis; Anna is at home and has been with the *Princeton Democrat* for the last eighteen years; George W. is a railway fireman at Princeton, Indiana, and married Ada Wright; Tena married Charles Davis, of Mt. Carmel, Illinois, a conductor on the Big Four railroad, and they have three children, Edna, Anna Bell and Geraldine; L. G., of Princeton, is an electric machinist at the mines, and married Ella Miller; John died February

15, 1909; Frank, machinist, married Marcus St. Clair, of Hoxie, Arkansas, and they have two children, John and Mildred.

Mr. Turnage is an honored member of the Grand Army of the Republic, having been a charter member of Archer Post No. 28 at Princeton, while, fraternally, he is a loyal member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. The subject is a strong believer in the principles of the Democratic party, while his affiliation in religious matters is with the Christian church.

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### ALBERT SCHUMACHER.

No profession has made greater advancement during the last half century than has the agricultural profession, and practically all of the disadvantages which surrounded the pioneer farmer have been done away with because of the multitude of modern inventions which tend to lighten the farmer's labors. It takes less labor now to operate a farm of fifty acres than it did to operate a farm of ten acres fifty years ago, and inventions are coming into use every year which are helping the farmer to increase his sphere of usefulness. Indiana is recognized as one of the best farming states in the Union and no county in this state has better or more progressive farmers than has Gibson county. Among the hundreds of farmers who have made this county famous as an agricultural section, there is no one more worthy of a place in a biographical volume of this character than Albert Schumacher, the subject of this review.

Albert Schumacher, the son of Joseph and Anna (Bawel) Schumacher, was born November 6, 1863, in Lynnville, Warrick county, Indiana. His father was a native of Germany and came to America when he was a young man about twenty-four years of age and settled in Warrick county. After working at farm labor in the locality in which he settled he married Anna Bawel in November, 1860, who had come with her parents to Warrick county when she was sixteen years of age. They were also natives of the fatherland. Joseph Schumacher then bought a farm near Lynnville in Warrick county and continued the operation of it more than fifty years, only recently moving to Lynnville. He served through the Civil war in Company E, Twenty-sixth Regiment Indiana Volunteers, and is still active and in good health at the age of eighty-one years. By frugal and thrifty habits he succeeded in acquiring about two hundred acres of well improved land, which

his son now operates. His wife, the mother of the subject of this sketch, was born May 2, 1833, and died in Warrick county, in 1882. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Schumacher were the parents of seven children: George, who died at the age of forty-three years; Albert, the immediate subject of this sketch; Amelia, born December 31, 1866, and died April 19, 1896; Charles, August, Otto and Hugo, the last two named being twins. Amelia married John Gieselman, a farmer of Warrick county, and three children were born to them before her death, Adolph, Theodore and Walter; Charles married Helen Roth, and lives in Missouri, and has four children; August married Emma Clusmeyer, and lives in the southeastern part of Texas, where he is following the occupation of a farmer, and is the father of four children; Otto M. is a farmer in Kansas, and has two children, Joseph and Marie; Hugo married Carrie Stunkle, and lives in Warrick county, this state, on a farm, and is the father of two children, Albert and Norman. After the death of his first wife in 1882, Joseph Schumacher married Pauline Jeide, in May, 1883, a native of Posey county, this state, and to this union were born seven children: Mary, Jacob, Freda, Elmer, Ida and two who died in infancy. Mary married John Schmidt, and lives in this county on a farm; Jacob married Lillie Nordhorn, lives on his father's farm and has two sons, Richard and Leland; Freda lives at Evansville, Indiana; Elmer makes his home with his brother, Jacob, on the old homestead farm; Ida is living with her father in Lynnville.

Albert Schumacher was married November 14, 1886, to Mary Bluemle, daughter of Lewis and Elizabeth (Fischer) Bluemle. Her father was born in Germany on August 30, 1834, and came to America when he was about twenty-one years of age, settling in Posey county, this state, where he worked on a farm until he was married. His wife was also a native of Germany, born November 9, 1836, and is still living with her daughter at Anderson, Indiana. Mr. Bluemle died October 7, 1877. Mr. and Mrs. Bluemle reared a family of six children, Albert, who died in infancy; Mary, the wife of Albert Schumacher, Mrs. Rosa Bawel, who died April 11, 1892; Lewis, Christina and Albert. Lewis married Hettie Mason and lives in Anderson, Indiana, and has three children, Doyle, Arnold and Orville; Christina married Lytle Corder, and also lives in Anderson, and is the mother of four children, Fonia, Erma, Harold and Louweir; Albert married Alice Fischer and lives in Rochester, Indiana, and is the father of two children, Verna and Donald.

Albert Schumacher spent his boyhood days on the farm near Lynnville;



Indiana, receiving his elementary education in the district schools of his township. He worked on his father's farm until his marriage and about two years afterward. He then moved to a farm near New Harmony, Indiana, where he remained for a year and a half, and then moved to a farm near Cynthiana, this county, where he remained for a year. His next move was to a four-hundred-acre farm near Owensville, where he still lives. He owns one hundred acres of land himself, on which his son-in-law, Otto Kiefer, lives. Mr. and Mrs. Schumacher are the parents of two children, Adelia, born in 1887, who is still at home, and Nora, the wife of Otto Kiefer, who has one son, Desmond.

Fraternally, Mr. Schumacher is a loyal and earnest member of the Tribe of Ben-Hur, of Owensville, and politically, has always been an adherent of the Republican party, and has been very active in its councils in his county and locality, but has never been a seeker for any political office. His religious affiliations are with the Methodist Episcopal church of Lynnville, and he contributes liberally to the support of that denomination.

Mr. Schumacher is a man of well rounded character, sincere, devoted and loyal to his friends, and he has all those qualities of head and heart which endear him to the confidence and esteem of all.

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### ARTHUR BROWN WOODS.

Among the men of sterling worth and strength of character who have made an impress on the life of the locality in which they live, no one has achieved a larger meed of popular respect than the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this review. His lifelong residence in one locality has given the people an opportunity to know him in every phase of his character, and that he has been true to life in its every phase is manifest by the esteem and regard in which he is held by all those who know him. He has gained his success by his own honest endeavor and indomitable energy, and has placed himself in the front rank of the farmers of his community, by exercising these excellent qualities. He has outstripped less active plodders on the highway of life and has achieved a marked success in agricultural affairs and has won for himself a name which all men who know him delight to honor, owing to his upright life and habits of thrift.

Arthur Brown Woods, who is a son of Sidney M. and Seralda J. (Keathley) Woods, was born October 28, 1869, five miles west of Princeton



on the old homestead farm. The Woods family are represented specifically elsewhere in this volume. Arthur B. Woods spent his boyhood days on his father's farm, enjoying the best education which the district schools of his time afforded. When he was a young boy his father died and shortly afterwards his oldest brother also died, and this caused Arthur B. to take the responsibility of caring for the family upon his own shoulders. It is to his credit that he was equal to the emergency, and successfully managed the farm for some years. He was married October 16, 1895, to Julia Thompson, the daughter of Francis Marion and Susanna (Fravel) Thompson. To Mr. and Mrs. Arthur B. Woods have been born six children, Darwin, Sidney, Vada, Frieda, Marjorie and Eugenia. After his marriage Mr. Woods purchased the old Smith farm of one hundred and ten acres, on which he still resides, and which he has brought to a high state of cultivation. Later he added an additional ten acres, making a total of one hundred and twenty acres of fine farming land. He engages in general farming and also raises considerable live stock, in which he has been very successful. He keeps abreast of the latest improvements in farming machinery and equipment and recently built a two-hundred-dollar silo, and made other improvements to the value of a thousand dollars on his place. He has remodeled the old residence which was on the farm when he bought it, and now has a most attractive and up-to-date farm in every respect, well fenced, well drained and by a scientific system of crop rotation he keeps his ground in good productive condition.

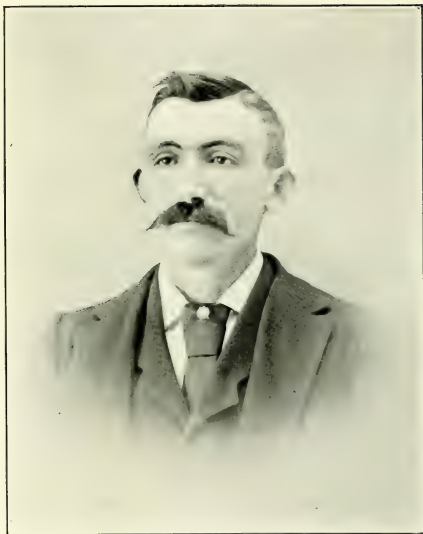
Fraternally, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, belonging to the lodge at Owensville. Although he has been a life-long Democrat he has never taken a very active interest in the deliberations of his party. He has never asked for any public office, but has been content to devote his time and energy to the building up of his agricultural interests. He and his wife are both loyal and earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Owensville, and he acts as one of the trustees of the church.

Mr. Woods is a man of pleasing disposition, genial personality and easily makes friends wherever he goes. He always looks on the bright side of life and is very charitable to the faults of his neighbors. In his business transactions he is strictly honest and upright and exercises all those qualities which make for good citizenship. At the outset of his career Mr. Woods recognized the fact that perseverance and honest effort furnished the only royal road to prosperity and independence and began to work earnestly and diligently to advance himself, using these excellent qualities as guides, with the result that he is now numbered among the progressive and successful farmers of Gibson county.

## GEORGE WASHINGTON SMITH.

An enumeration of the representative citizens of Gibson county, Indiana, would be incomplete without specific mention of the well known and popular gentleman whose name introduces this sketch. A member of one of the old and highly esteemed families of the county, and for many years a public-spirited man of affairs, he has stamped his individuality upon the community and added luster to the honorable name which he bears, having always been scrupulously honest in all his relations with his fellow men and leaving no stone unturned whereby he might benefit his own condition as well as that of his neighbors and friends, consequently he long ago won the favor of a great number of people of Montgomery township, where he maintains his home in Owensville.

George Washington Smith is a native of the "Sucker" state, born in Logan county, Illinois, June 22, 1859, the son of Warrick and Margaret (Simpson) Smith. Warrick Smith was a native of Gibson county, born in Owensville, September 23, 1831, being the third child and only son of Dr. Willis J. Smith, one of the pioneer physicians of Gibson county. Doctor Smith was born about 1800 at Danville, Kentucky, the son of parents in good circumstances. He was an extremely well educated man, a man of broad ideas which placed him in advance of his day and age. He received his medical training at the Louisville Medical College and came to Gibson county early in his married life. He was a man highly honored by all who knew him and his practice extended over a wide area. He made his home about two miles west of Owensville on what is now known as the Paden farm, and his practice extended from Princeton to New Harmony. He spent a great deal of time in the saddle, as was the custom of early physicians, and in taking his lonely way through unbroken spaces he met and made friends with the Indians and by his honorable treatment of them won their sincere regard. To them he was the great "medicine man," and as such was honored and revered. His promising and useful life was early closed, his death occurring August 17, 1835. Before coming to Indiana, Dr. Willis J. Smith was united in marriage with Patsy C. Warrick, a daughter of Capt. Jacob Warrick. She was born on June 3, 1809, near Lexington, Kentucky. Captain Warrick was prominent in the early military affairs of the state of Indiana, and his record appears in that chapter in this work devoted to military affairs. At the battle of Tippecanoe he received his mortal wound and before his death occurred



GEORGE W. SMITH.



bequeathed his possessions to various heirs, a portion of which went to his daughter, Patsy C., wife of Dr. Willis J. Smith. The wife of Capt. Jacob Warrick was Jane Montgomery, who was born in Virginia in 1774 and in Gibson county married Jacob Warrick in 1798. *see Blair Co., Ky*

Warrick Smith, father of the immediate subject of this sketch, was united in marriage to Margaret M. Simpson in February, 1856, and they at once took up their residence near Atlanta, Logan county, Illinois. They resided on a farm, which he operated, and he also conducted a livery and sales stable in the town of Atlanta, remaining there for twelve years, at the end of which time he returned to his native Montgomery township. Here, in 1868, he purchased the John C. Simpson farm, where his wife was born, located directly north of Owensville. John C. Simpson and his wife, Margaret (Stewart), were the parents of Mrs. Warrick Smith. He came to Gibson county in the early forties and took up residence near Owensville, where he lived to a ripe old age, spending his very last days in the town of Owensville. Warrick Smith was a man who became prominent in the affairs of the community, after taking up his residence on the Simpson farm, and lived there until his death, in June, 1902. His wife's death occurred January 24, 1895. They were consistent members of the General Baptist church and took great interest in the progress of that society's affairs. His fraternal affiliation was with the time-honored order of Freemasonry and he gave much of his time to the interests of the Democratic party. While not a seeker after office for himself, he wielded a definite influence for others. In the spring of 1897 he laid out and platted Smith's addition to the town of Owensville, adding a decided improvement in the affairs of that thriving town. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Warrick Smith, one of whom died in early infancy. Those growing to maturity are George W., the immediate subject of this sketch; John Willis, farmer and bank director, residing north of Owensville, and Lillie, the only daughter, wife of Charles Murnahan, of Owensville.

George Washington Smith was nine years old when his parents returned to Gibson county from Logan county, Illinois, and has lived in the vicinity of Owensville ever since, both owning and renting land in various places. His education was received in the schools of his native county and he remained at home until his marriage, March 27, 1890, to Mina Montgomery, who was born near Owensville, a daughter of Benjamin F. and Hannah (Sharpe) Montgomery. Benjamin F. Montgomery was born south of Owensville, the son of Samuel and Cynthia Ann (Griggsby) Montgomery. Samuel Mont-

gomery was a son of Hugh Montgomery, Sr., and was called "Blind Sam," owing to an affliction of weak eyes, and to distinguish him from others of the same name in the community. Samuel Montgomery was an excellent gunsmith and several specimens of his work are still to be found near Owensville. Benjamin F. Montgomery, father of Mrs. George W. Smith, is considered a quite versatile man, having the ability to handle many different lines of work with equal ease and facility. He has long been considered a resident of Owensville, and for the past twenty years has lived at the various homes of his children. His wife, who died March 3, 1874, was Hannah Sharpe, daughter of Harrison and Amaretta (Decker) Sharpe, and was born and raised near Vincennes, Indiana.

George Washington Smith holds membership in several fraternal bodies, among them being the Free and Accepted Masons, the Tribe of Ben-Hur, Modern Woodmen of America and others. He and his wife are both members of the Order of the Eastern Star and take an active interest in the affairs of the General Baptist church, of which both are members. Mr. Smith has always been a stanch Democrat and is considered one of the foremost men of his party in the township. He was at one time appointed a county commissioner to fill a vacancy occurring and was himself a candidate for the office at the next election. He met defeat with his ticket, but succeeded in cutting down the nominal majority of the opposition to within a few votes of election. In 1898 he was elected a county commissioner and in the year 1900 was elected trustee of Montgomery township, serving four years. In 1908 he received the nomination for recorder of Gibson county, but was defeated, the election going to the opposition. He has recently been elected a member of the Owensville town board. When in office, he has been most conscientious in the discharge of the duties pertaining thereunto, often neglecting his own private affairs that public ends might not suffer.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith are the parents of eight children, namely: Lyle Warrick, born October 31, 1892; Chauncey M., born May 6, 1894; Willis F., born February 29, 1896; Heber W., born February 9, 1898; Margaret, born April 10, 1900; Madeline, born February 18, 1902, died February 24, 1904; Mona A., born July 5, 1906, and Norman B., born May 25, 1908. Mr. Smith is considered a broad-minded man, full of spirit and a leader in those matters relating to the advancement of his fellow men. He is a man of decided convictions on public questions, maintains his stand with resolute firmness and has made his usefulness felt in the various trusts with which he has been honored from time to time. In every sphere of endeavor in which he has taken a

part, his unpretending bearing and strict integrity have elevated him in the confidence of his fellow citizens and his influence is always powerful and salutary in the community.

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### WILLIAM L. WOODS.

The gentleman to a brief review of whose life and characteristics the reader's attention is herewith directed was among the favorably known and representative citizens of Gibson county. By his indomitable enterprise and progressive methods he contributed in a material way to the advancement of his locality and during the course of an honorable career was fairly successful in his business enterprises, having been a man of energy, sound judgment and honesty of purpose, and is thus well deserving of mention in this volume.

William L. Woods, a native of Gibson county, was born five miles southwest of Princeton on section 21, Patoka township, on September 13, 1820, and passed his entire life of seventy-six years on this one farm, having lived in three different houses in the same yard. This old homestead in the township of Patoka was first owned by Joseph Woods, father of William L., who came to Gibson county, Indiana, from Tennessee in 1820. He secured government land in section 21, Patoka township, which he converted from wild land into cultivated acres and well fruited orchards. In addition to general farming, he raised stock extensively, and was a successful, well-known and highly respected man. He and his wife, who was Elizabeth Hanna, died on this place. To them were born six children, namely: Patrick N., a farmer in Patoka township; Polly, deceased, who was the wife of Silas Stone, of Owensville; William L., the immediate subject of this sketch; Andrew Jackson; Jane, who married John Hudelson and Abraham.

William L. Woods attended school in the little old log school house of early pioneer days, heated from an open fireplace and where the children sat on crude and uncomfortable puncheon seats. His schooling was necessarily limited and at an early age he began to assist his father around the farm and in the course of time came into the management of the home place. He was a very successful farmer and in addition to that line of work gave a great deal of attention to the different phases of the cattle business. He bought and sold cattle and other stock, paying special attention to the raising of

Shorthorn cattle, long wool and Cotswold sheep; he also had a fine strain of Poland China hogs and a splendid class of general purpose horses. His activity in live stock naturally made him interested in the Gibson County Agricultural Society and fair, especially in his particular line. He was one of the directors and leading men of the fair association. His life was Amanda C. Mangrum, whom he married on the 14th of October, 1852, and she is still living west of Princeton at the age of eighty-two years. William L. Woods died on January 10, 1897, in the seventy-seventh year of his age.

Amanda C. Mangrum was the daughter of William and Mary C. (Douglass) Mangrum, and was born May 12, 1831. William Mangrum was born in North Carolina on January 8, 1792, and died on March 26, 1841. His marriage to Mary C. Douglass resulted in the birth of thirteen children, a typical pioneer family. The children were as follows: Alcephas W., born February 5, 1813; Olivia J., born November 22, 1814, died at the age of ninety-two years; Narcissa, born September 10, 1816; Trafton, born June 18, 1818; Spencer, born October 13, 1820; Valentine S., born December 28, 1822, died at the age of eighty-five years; William E., born December 31, 1824; John N., born January 13, 1827; Henry J., born March 4, 1829, died October 19, 1904; Amanda C., born March 12, 1831; Mary E., born September 28, 1833; Lydia E., born September 18, 1835, now Mrs. John Selby, of near Petersburg, Indiana, and Miletta E., July 22, 1838.

William Mangrum was one of the first men to enter the county of Gibson. He first settled in what was known as the Froggery settlement. The land was wild and uncultivated, and after securing a tract from the government he set to work to clear a space for a home and his crops. Mr. Mangrum did a great deal of freighting in the early days and also ran a peddler wagon for some time. At another time he occupied the unique position as driver of the overland stage between Evansville and Vincennes. He was a popular man in his day and was well liked. Both he and his wife died on the old home place. Mr. Mangrum was a member of the old Liberty church of the Christian denomination. Politically, he was an old-line Whig.

William and Amanda C. Woods reared a family of seven children, as follows: Harriett Ann, wife of John McCarty, living west of Fort Branch, Indiana; Jane, wife of Joseph Emerson, of near Owensville, Indiana; John Fremont, a farmer on the old homestead, whose wife was Essie Cushman; Martha, deceased wife of Thomas Emerson, a farmer of Montgomery township; Olevia, widow of Joseph McCarty, who resides at McCaw Summit;



Lewis, who died September 12, 1872, at the age of six years, ten months and seven days, and George W.

It is appropriate at this juncture to say something of Joseph McCarty, whose widow now lives at McCaw Summit. Joseph McCarty was born in Patoka township, this county, on February 3, 1862, and was the son of Jacob and Nancy (Wilson) McCarty, which parents were from Bloomington, Monroe county, Indiana. To these latter parents were born the following children who grew to maturity: John, who married Harriett Ann Woods, and now lives west of Fort Branch, where he keeps a well-stocked implement store; William, who is deceased; Joseph; Belle, who married James Adkins, of McCaw Summit; Amanda, who married first Charles Solomon, and later Benjamin Backley. Joseph McCarty attended the district schools and later the schools at Vincennes, and then took up farming in Patoka township, later, farming on the Woods and Dunlap places, and in 1906 bought a farm at McCaw Summit. In 1912 he built a home at this place. He was associated with Oscar Clark for many years in the implement business, the firm being known as Clark & McCarty. He was a member of the agricultural board for nineteen years. Mr. McCarty was a member of the Baptist church, and was a very strong Prohibitionist. His death occurred on June 3, 1913. He had married Olevia Woods, on December 1, 1881, and two children were born to this union, Harvey A. married Eva Brown and is the father of two children, Earl Brown and Paul Lamon; Virgil lives at home with his mother. Mr. McCarty took an active interest in many business and civic enterprises during his life, at one time being president of the American National Bank of Princeton. During this time he was also interested in the White Church cemetery to a great extent.

George W. Woods, the son of William L. Woods, was born on April 12, 1868, at the family homestead, Patoka township, this county, and was educated in the district schools of Gibson county, also spending one year at the high school at Owensville, Indiana. On September 4, 1889, he was united in marriage to Eliza E. Brown, of Patoka township, a daughter of John L. Brown, a farmer. To their union have been born two children, namely: Carl L., who was educated in the home schools, was a salesman for several years, and is now employed at the Princeton postoffice, and Hazel D., who remains at home, and is a teacher in Patoka township schools.

From the time of his marriage until 1898 Mr. Woods was engaged in farming and then went into the harness and implement business at Princeton.

For six years he continued in this business, when he disposed of it and entered the livery trade.

Mr. Woods' political sympathies have always been with the Republican party, in whose affairs he has ever taken a quiet interest. His fraternal affiliations are with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Tribe of Ben-Hur and the Knights and Ladies of Honor, being connected with these societies through the local organizations at Princeton. He is also a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, to which he gives a liberal support.

Altogether, Mr. Woods has led a well rounded and complete life, measuring up to the high standard of manhood in all relations of life and is well deserving of the high esteem in which he is held in the community.

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#### VIVIAN H. EMMERSON.

The farmer is the bulwark of the nation and investigation has shown that a majority of our best business men in the cities were raised on the farm. George Washington was a farmer and was proud of the fact. Abraham Lincoln was raised on a farm in Spencer county, Indiana. Probably the most popular Democratic governor this state ever had was "Blue Jeans" Williams, who prided himself on being nothing but a farmer. The Republican party never had a better governor than that plain and unostentatious farmer, James A. Mount. Verily the farmer is the bulwark of the nation and the salt of the earth. Among the farmers of this county none is more progressive than Vivian Emmerson, the subject of this brief review. He has been thoroughly schooled in all the multitude of agricultural details, which are the necessary concomitants of the best farmers. Careful and conservative in his business methods and affairs, he is nevertheless sufficiently progressive to make him keep apace with twentieth-century ideas and methods of agriculture. For these reasons it is eminently fitting that he find a worthy place in this volume.

Vivian Emmerson, the son of Thomas and Ella (Montgomery) Emmerson, was born October 20, 1881, on a farm three and one-half miles east of Owensville, this county. His father was also a native of this county, and lived on the farm practically all of his life, with the exception of the last few years, in which he engaged in the hardware business in Owensville. He

moved from the farm to Owensville in 1890, where he conducted a hardware store until his death in 1898. He served as county commissioner of Gibson county for two terms, but died before the expiration of his second term. He was well liked by everyone and did full justice to his important office by his square dealing and honest methods. His wife was also a native of Gibson county and died in 1896. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Emmerson were the parents of three children, Vivian H., the immediate subject of this sketch; Virgil, deceased in 1891; Verlie, who married Marion Jones, a farmer in this county, having land adjoining that of the subject; Mr. and Mrs. Jones have one child, Lloyd, who is still at home.

Vivian H. Emmerson was reared on his father's farm and lived the life of the ordinary farmer's boy, attending school in the winter seasons and working on his father's farm during the summer months. After attending the Owensville high school he started to take the mechanical engineering course at Purdue University, but after continuing two terms he returned to the farm and engaged in the hardware business which he followed for about six years. In 1907, he closed out this business and returned to the home farm, where he has continued to reside until the present time.

Mr. Emmerson was married March 6, 1903, to Amanda Linenberger, the daughter of Frederick and Paula Ann (Bass) Linenberger. Her father was a native of Germany, but came to America while yet a young man with his parents. He has been a farmer, but is now living retired in Owensville. Mrs. Linenberger is a native of Barton township, this county, and is still living. They were the parents of six children: William, who lives at Johnson Station; Mrs. Mary Dyball, of Owensville; Amanda, the wife of the subject; Simeon, Fred and Minnie, who are living with the subject of this sketch.

Mr. and Mrs. Vivian Emmerson have one son, Raymond, and are now living on the farm, enjoying all the pleasures of agricultural life. They have a fine home, well furnished and attractive, modern barn and outbuildings, and one of the most up-to-date farms in the township. Mr. Emmerson is an enthusiastic Mason, being a member of the chapter, council and commandery of that order. Although he is a Republican in politics, he has never asked for any political office at the hands of his party, being satisfied to devote all his time and energies to his farming interests. He is a progressive farmer in every sense of the word, and is making a scientific study of agricultural methods. While primarily attending to his own interests, he has not neglected his duty to his fellow man, but has been untiring in his efforts to inspire proper respect for law and order, and is ready at all times to assist humanity along civic and social lines.

## THOMAS A. WALTERS.

All honor should be accorded the brave "boys in blue" who, when the ominous clouds of rebellion gathered over our national horizon, sacrificed the pleasures of home, business opportunities and all that makes life happy, and went forth to "do and die," if need be, on the fields of carnage in the South, thus saving a great and united country to succeeding generations. The subject of this biography is one of that loyal host, and, incidentally, one of the most highly honored citizens of Fort Branch, Gibson county, Indiana, where he has spent a long and successful career.

Thomas A. Walters was born January 22, 1847, in the eastern part of Fort Branch, Gibson county, the son of Reuben T. and Susan (Smyth) Walters, the former born September 20, 1820, near where the Methodist Episcopal church now stands in Fort Branch, and the latter born in county Monahan, Ireland, the daughter of Thomas D. Smyth, who settled on a farm near Fort Branch at an early date, reared a large family and died at the age of sixty-four. A brother of the subject's mother, Jeremiah, the eldest son of Thomas D. Smyth, was an officer in a crack English regiment, the family being followers of King William, the hero of the battle of the Boyne in 1690. The trouble between the Orangemen and Catholics becoming very acute, the whole family moved to America, with the exception of a daughter who was married in the Emerald Isle, and later emigrated to Toronto, Canada. The Smyth family settled near Fort Branch. The youngest son had a successful career as a physician and after retiring from practice died in Princeton, Indiana. The other children located near Evansville, Indiana, except William, the second son, who remained on the home farm. The Smyths were people of prominence in their day and were highly respected in their communities. William Smyth, a brother of the subject's maternal grandfather, amassed a fortune and an international fame as a linen manufacturer in Ireland.

The subject's paternal grandfather was Alvin Walters, of New Jersey, who was a fisherman, in which vocation he lost his life in a very tragic manner in about 1813 or 1814. He and two companions and two boys went out in a fishing smack, which encountered rough water and was upset, all being drowned with the exception of one of the boys, who was the subject's father, he saving himself by clinging to the upturned bottom of the boat. Alvin Walters swam to the shore, a distance of about three miles, but was so exhausted on reaching land that he could not extricate himself from the tangled seaweed



THOMAS A. WALTERS.



and perished. In the meantime his wife had become anxious and went to the shore, where she found his lifeless body. The mother had come to Indiana in search of land in 1820, being accompanied by her brother-in-law, Enoch Walters, and while at Fort Branch gave birth to the subject's father, returning shortly to New York, where she remained until after her husband's death, when she returned to Indiana, in about 1833. The subject's father had been fortunate in securing an excellent education in New York, he having attended the schools there up to the age of thirteen, and after the family was located in Indiana and the mother had again married, he resumed his studies, finishing his education in the old seminary in Princeton at the age of twenty. He then worked on his step-father's farm for about six years and was then married, March 13, 1846, the parents of his wife dying on that same date and leaving her an orphan. The father of the subject and his bride moved on to the farm east of Fort Branch where Thomas A. was born, they soon purchasing a brother's interest in the place and continuing its cultivation until 1880, when the father retired and made his home in Fort Branch, where he died April 21, 1895, his wife having passed away April 22, 1891. Reuben T. Walters was a man of the highest character and intelligence, a strong supporter of the Methodist Episcopal church, and, although many times urged by his friends to accept public office, steadily refused. To himself and wife were born eight children, namely: Thomas A., the subject; Mercy J. died August 17, 1901; Sally L. married Calvin Binkly, of Clay Center, Kansas; Susan is the wife of B. F. Shannon and lives a half mile north of Fort Branch; James D. lives in Austin, Minnesota; Richard S. lives in Fort Branch; William died in infancy; Fanny M. L. died January 27, 1891.

T. A. Walters, the subject of this review, received a good elementary education in the common schools of Evansville and Fort Branch. On December 14, 1863, he enlisted in Company B, Tenth Indiana Cavalry, One Hundred Twenty-fifth Regiment, Col. Thomas M. Pace commanding the regiment and Capt. Thomas G. Williamson the company. The subject was mustered in at Vincennes December 14, 1863, and, with his comrades, was sent to Columbus, Indiana, where the regiment was organized, and on the 21st of May they were dispatched to Louisville, Kentucky, from there to Nashville, Tennessee, and then to Pulaski, Tennessee, which vicinity they spent the summer, having numerous engagements at different points in that section with General Wheeler's forces. In the fall of that year (November, 1864) the regiment was returned to Nashville and took part in the battle of Nashville, on December 14, 15, 16 and 17, 1864. A portion of the regiment followed after the

retreating General Hood, while the remainder were sent to Nashville and placed on board ship for Mobile, Alabama, the subject being with the latter body. From New Orleans they immediately continued on to Mobile, the other part of the regiment having joined them on the way, and arrived in the Crescent City about May 12, 1865. Remaining there a few days, they were sent back to Mobile, and after the fall of the forts they started through Alabama and Mississippi, expecting to join General Wilson. They had already taken Selma and detachments were in pursuit of Jefferson Davis, so they proceeded to Montgomery, thence to Kosciusko and then to Vicksburg, where they were mustered out August 30, 1865.

Mr. Walters, being honorably discharged September 7, 1865, at Indianapolis, he returned to the old homestead, and, at the insistence of his father, attended two terms of school, his parent wishing him to become a physician, but the subject was not inclined toward that profession. For a time he engaged in various occupations, spending two years in the hardware business in Minnesota. In 1876 he was selected as a deputy sheriff and served two years. In 1894 occurred his election to the office of recorder of Gibson county, in which responsible position he was an efficient and popular public servant for four years, refusing a second term.

The subject of this brief review was married October 30, 1895, to Anna E. West, of Newburg, Indiana, the daughter of Henry C. and Phoebe E. (Genung) West. Phoebe West was a sister of Dr. William R. Genung, of Fort Branch, and her father, who died in 1872, was a veteran of the Civil war, he having been a member of Company E, Twenty-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and having been wounded at Pittsburg Landing.

Mr. Walters is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, Stephen Meade Post No. 187, while his fraternal affiliations are with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of which he has been an appreciative member for forty-five years, and the Tribe of Ben-Hur and the Knights of Pythias. He has always taken an active interest in politics, being prominent in the councils of the Republican party. Mrs. Walters is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

In the real estate and insurance business conducted by the subject a large measure of success has been his. At the present time Mr. Walters represents twelve of the leading insurance companies of the country and is handling the bulk of the business in that line in his community. For many years he has been a notary public and he also enjoys a large patronage from attorneys and others needing his services in a notarial capacity.



## SAMUEL B. THOMPSON.

The office of biography is not to give voice to a man's modest estimate of himself and his accomplishments, but rather to leave upon the record the verdict establishing his character by the consensus of opinion on the part of his neighbors, friends and fellow citizens. The life of the honorable subject of this sketch has been such as to elicit just praise from those who know him best, owing to the fact that he has always been loyal to trusts imposed upon him and has been upright in his dealings with his fellow men, at the same time lending his support to the advancement of any cause looking to the welfare of his community.

Samuel B. Thompson, the son of Francis Marion and Susannah Elizabeth (Fravel) Thompson, was born March 12, 1875, three and one-half miles north of Owensville. The genealogy of the Thompson family is found elsewhere in this volume in the sketch of Francis Thompson, father of the subject of this sketch.

Samuel B. Thompson spent his boyhood days on his father's farm, and after taking the course in the common schools of his home county, he graduated from the Owensville high school. After this he spent one year in the old Normal College at Princeton, Indiana. Upon his marriage he bought his present farm of one hundred and nineteen acres from his father, and has improved it with that discriminating judgment which stamps him as one of the most progressive farmers of the township. He has a fine residence, commodious barns and other outbuildings, and his farm is well fenced and drained. He takes a very active interest in all the movements which have for their end the improvement of farming, and has acted as chairman of the Farmers' Institute of his county. He believes that the corn show contests which have been held in the county are productive of great good, and for this reason is an enthusiastic booster for them. He keeps himself well informed on the latest methods of scientific farming and is always ready to take advantage of anything which will improve his farm and bring about better results.

Although he is an ardent Democrat, he has never sought any political office, being content to devote all his energies to his agricultural interests. Fraternally, he is a valued member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a clean, progressive farmer, well liked and with a pleasing disposition which makes him friends wherever he goes. He is devoted to his chosen vocation and has lent honor and dignity to the profession of farming, and justly deserves to be numbered among the progressive and enterprising citizens of his

county. With his natural intellectual endowments and upright character, he has become a valued factor in the community, and is ever vigilant in his efforts to further its interests along moral, material and civic lines.

Mr. Thompson was united in marriage to Cora E. Emerson on October 19, 1899. She was a daughter of James and Susan J. (Williams) Emerson, whose family is referred to specifically elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Thompson is lady of many excellent qualities of head and heart, devoted to her home and family, and religiously, is affiliated with the General Baptist church, of which she is an ardent and loyal member, taking a deep interest in all the various activities of that denomination. She and her husband are popular and well liked in the social circles in which they move and command the respect and esteem of all who know them. To Mr. and Mrs. Thompson has been born one child, Alice Pauline.

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#### PINKNEY S. ARMSTRONG.

Faalty to facts in the analyzation of the character of a citizen of the type of Pinkney S. Armstrong, progressive farmer and business man of Montgomery township, Gibson county, is all that is required to make a biographical sketch interesting to those who have at heart the good name of the community honored by his residence, because it is the honorable reputation of the man of standing and affairs, more than any other consideration, that gives character and stability to the body politic. While advancing his individual interests, he has never lost sight of his obligations to the community in general, where for many years he had held a high place in popular confidence and esteem.

Pinkney S. Armstrong was born November 24, 1866, in Montgomery township, this county, the son of William S. and Emily (Smith) Armstrong. William S. Armstrong, subject's father, was born in Vanderburg county, Indiana, the son of Kirby and Miranda (Gambrel) Armstrong, and the father of Kirby was John. John Armstrong was one of three brothers who came to America from Ireland. For seven years he had been a sailor on the high seas, and wearying of this, he decided to settle down to the life of a farmer in America. He and his brothers lived for a short time near Albermarle Sound in North Carolina, and later John went to Kentucky. There he stayed for a short time and about the year 1806 came over into Indiana, at the time when his son, Kirby, was a lad of about seven years. They settled in Vanderburg

county, where the lad Kirby grew to manhood, married, and there his son William S. was born. William S. also grew to manhood in Vanderburg county, and when about twenty-two years old was united in marriage with Emily Smith. She was born in Montgomery township, Gibson county, a daughter of Dr. Willis Smith. Her mother was Patsy Warrick, a daughter of Captain Jacob Warrick, prominent in the early history of Gibson county and one of the heroes who received a mortal wound during the battle of Tippecanoe. Doctor Willis Smith was originally from Kentucky and was one of the pioneer physicians of this county, when the practice of the profession of medicine was surely no sinecure.

After his marriage, William S. Armstrong moved to Gibson county, locating in Montgomery township, between Owensville and Princeton and about four miles from Owensville. He purchased land at this point and here he and his wife passed the remainder of their lives. His death occurred July 24, 1877, and his wife died January 1, 1902, at the age of seventy-five years.

Pinkney S. Armstrong grew up on his father's farm and continued to live there until he was thirty-two years old. On December 1, 1887, he was united in marriage with Martha Roberts. She is a native of Gibson county, a daughter of John and Jane (Montgomery) Roberts, and is a sister of William T. Roberts, the present auditor of Gibson county. Her mother, Jane Montgomery, was a daughter of Colonel William Montgomery, a prominent pioneer of the county. To the union of Pinkney S. and Martha (Roberts) Armstrong was born one child, Mildred Blanche, who was not quite six years old at the time of her mother's death, June 14, 1909. On May 21, 1911, Mr. Armstrong took as his second wife Nora Smith, a native of Montgomery township, and a daughter of Henry W. and Matilda (Mauck) Smith.

After his first marriage, in 1887, Mr. Armstrong continued to reside on his father's farm for eleven years, when he purchased his present farm three miles northeast of Owensville. In all, he is the owner of about nine hundred acres of fine farm land. He has about eighty acres in his home farm and this he farms, together with about one hundred and sixty acres near King's Station, and the balance of his land, located at the same place, he rents. The accumulating of this vast acreage is a high tribute to the excellent business ability of Mr. Armstrong. Forseeing that the fine farm lands in his county would some day demand a much higher price than they did in his earlier manhood, he bought up all the land he felt he was safe in assuming, borrowing heavily to meet his obligations, and when the rise came, as he

*John Roberts  
son of Henry  
Roberts  
Martha*

felt sure it would, he found himself a wealthy man. Mr. Armstrong has not only farmed along the most modern and scientific methods, but he has devoted considerable attention to the raising of live stock, doing especially well with a fine strain of Poland China hogs. In addition to this, he has done a large business in raising pears and is now giving his particular attention to the growing of alfalfa on a large scale, inoculating the soil and carrying it through to the harvest in the most approved scientific method. In addition to his regular business, Mr. Armstrong is a stockholder in six banking concerns, namely: Farmers' National Bank of Princeton, Citizens' Trust and Savings Bank of Princeton, First National Bank at Fort Branch, The Bankers' National at Evansville, the First National Bank of Owensville and the American National Bank of Princeton. He is also a director in the two last named.

Mr. Armstrong is a man of splendid influence in his community, and being a very industrious man who has led an honorable career, he sets a worthy example to the younger generation of his community. He is regarded as a public-spirited man who can always be counted on to support the right side of any movement involving the moral, educational and social welfare of his fellow-citizens. He is one of those solid men of brain and substance, so essential to the material growth and prosperity of a community and whose influence has been willingly extended in behalf of every deserving enterprise.

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#### R. P. LOCKHART.

Although not an old man in years, the gentleman whose life record is herein outlined has stamped his individuality in no uncertain manner upon the localities where he has resided, being an excellent representative of that type of the much heralded American business man—the type that does things—Mr. Lockhart being a worthy descendant of a long line of honorable and influential ancestors.

R. P. Lockhart, who is at present engaged in the lumber business in Patoka, was born at Winthrop, Atchison county, Missouri, on July 6, 1864, the son of Ephraim G. and Elizabeth (Casey) Lockhart, natives, respectively, of New York state, and Posey county, Indiana. Ephraim G. Lockhart came to this county about 1854 and first devoted himself to farming pursuits, and later he became interested in saw and grist mills and other enterprises, in which he was very successful. He attained to a high place in the esteem of his

fellow citizens, serving for many years as a justice of the peace at Patoka. A few years after locating here he moved to Atchison county, Missouri, and about 1864 returned to Gibson county, spending the rest of his days in this state. He lived in Dubois county a short time, but his death occurred in Patoka at the age of seventy-two years. His wife had died about two years prior to that time. They were the parents of six children, namely: William, Katie and Arena are deceased, Henry, of Patoka, R. P., the immediate subject of this sketch, and Thomas, deceased.

R. P. Lockhart received his education in the public schools of Patoka, and then took up the vocation of saw filing, in which he was employed in various saw mills throughout southwestern Indiana for many years. About eight years ago Mr. Lockhart engaged in the saw mill business on his own account in Patoka, in which enterprise he has met with pronounced success. In addition to his milling interests, Mr. Lockhart owns a splendid farm of two hundred and forty acres of land west of Patoka, which he is devoting to general agricultural purposes, raising all the crops common to this locality and also giving some attention to the breeding and raising of live stock. He is a stockholder and director in the Patoka National Bank, of which he was one of the organizers in connection with Will Parrett, Alex D. Milburn, Preston Milburn and others. He is considered a man of keen and sagacious business judgment, whose advice is sought by those in need of counsel.

On June 20, 1900, occurred the marriage of Mr. Lockhart to Kate Cline, the daughter of Daniel Cline, of Patoka. The ceremony which united this couple was extraordinary in one respect at least. Mr. Lockhart was in Stanton, Tennessee, and his bride in Patoka on the day set for the wedding. Mr. Lockhart found that he would be unable to come to Patoka and the ceremony was performed by telephone. To their union has been born a daughter, Cathleen Elizabeth.

Fraternally, Mr. Lockhart is an enthusiastic member of the Masonic order, while politically, he is a Progressive Republican, having served as a member of the city council. He owns one of the most attractive residences in Patoka, and here the spirit of old-time hospitality is always in evidence, the home being a favorite gathering place of the many friends of the family. Personally, Mr. Lockhart is popular, possessing to a marked degree the characteristics that win and retain warm friendships. For his kindness and courtesy he has found an abiding place in the esteem of his fellow citizens, and his intelligent energy and enterprising spirit have made his influence felt during his residence in Gibson county.

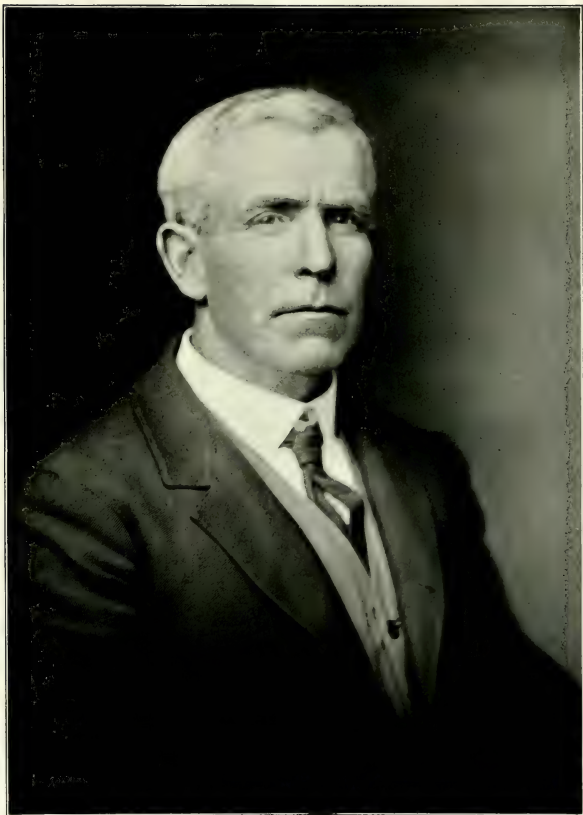
## HON. ALBERT GALLATIN HOLCOMB.

Prominent among the representative citizens of Gibson county, Indiana, pre-eminently distinguished for his splendid ability in carrying to completion important public enterprises and enjoying marked prestige in many things far beyond the limits of the community honored by his residence, the gentleman whose name forms the caption to this brief review stands out a clear and conspicuous figure among the successful men of a part of the great Hoosier state noted throughout the commonwealth for its high order of citizenship. Characterized by breadth of wisdom and strong individuality, his achievements but represent the utilization of innate talents in directing efforts along lines in which mature judgment, rare discrimination and a resourcefulness that hesitates at no opposing circumstances, pave the way and ultimately lead to great achievements. It is not the intention of the biographer in this connection to give a detailed history of his busy life, but rather to note, incidentally, his connection with the various phases of the development of Gibson county and to show the marked influence he has wielded in advancing the material interests of this locality by his strict adherence to the Golden Rule and his desire to promote the general good.

Albert Gallatin Holcomb was born March 7, 1858, in Johnson township, Gibson county, Indiana, the son of Silas M. and Nancy A. (Ralston) Holcomb, the mother being a sister of Dr. W. G. Ralston, of Evansville, Indiana, and the father a son of Hosea Holcomb, who came from Virginia to Indiana as a young man and entered land in Gibson county three and one-half miles east of Haubstadt. Hosea Holcomb settled in the virgin forest, cut timber, cleared his land, built a home and raised his family here, being a successful man in all that term implies.

The subject's father continued on the original property after the death of his father and continued the successful conduct of the home place. He was a man who took an active part in public affairs and was elected to and served in the state Legislature, being a leader in his district. He died in his sixty-five year. He was the father of five children, namely: William R. is now living in Vincennes; Albert G.; Minnie is deceased; Martha lives at Fort Branch; Andrew R. is in Oklahoma.

The subject of this review spent his boyhood in Johnson township, receiving his education in the common schools, and then taught school for eight years. At the end of this period he was elected trustee for two consecutive terms and gave such efficient service in that responsible office that at the com-



ALBERT G. HOLCOMB.





pletion of his second term he was the choice of the people of his district for state senator, to which office he was elected for one term. His constituents soon realized the wise choice they had made in selecting Mr. Holcomb to represent their interests in the General Assembly, for he devoted his talents and energies to legislating for their best interests, he being the author of a number of admirable measures, and displaying a wise discrimination in the casting of his vote on all matters before the senate. In 1904 the subject was the unanimous choice of the Democratic party as a candidate for Congress, but he was included in the general landslide which overwhelmed his party on the occasion of Roosevelt's second election. Mr. Holcomb has been chairman of the Democratic county committee for four years and also has served as chairman of his township for the last thirty years, having been elected to the latter position when he was but eighteen years of age, he having been on the committee continuously since.

For sixteen years the subject has been a member of the board of directors of the Gibson County Agricultural and Horticultural Fair, having served as president of this body for two terms. He has attended and been an active worker in the farmers' institutes for a number of years. The Senator has a splendid farm adjoining the town of Fort Branch, where he raises fine crops of grain and other farm products. His place is a model agricultural plant, the equipment of buildings, silo and barns being especially complete. For a number of years the subject has been interested in the best grades of live stock, his Percheron horses, bred from registered sires, having taken many prizes at fairs, while his cattle are pure bred Jerseys. His large and beautifully furnished modern residence is located at the turn in the main road, the bend in the road forming the border to a lawn formed in the shape of a half circle, comprising about a half acre in extent, and presenting a pleasing effect with its beautiful shrubbery and trees.

On October 27, 1881, the subject was married to Alice M. Hull, daughter of Thomas Hull, a pioneer of Gibson county. To this union have been born two children, namely: Thomas secured his early education in the common schools and in the Fort Branch high school, supplementing this by courses in the law departments of the University of Georgia and Yale University, after which he located as a practicing attorney in Chicago; Harold R. is attending high school.

Thomas Hull, the father of the subject's wife, came originally from New York City, and he was the son of John Hull, who emigrated to this country

from Liverpool, England soon after his marriage to Elizabeth Taylor, of Rochester, England. John Hull and wife lived in New York City for a short while, during which time the son Thomas was born. Leaving this city, the family removed to Boston, where Thomas attended school and it was his privilege to see General Lafayette on his farewell visit to this country in 1824. Removing from Boston, they went to New Orleans by the ocean route, that same year, where they remained until 1827, when the family came up the river to Gibson county, Indiana, and settled on a farm near Owensville, in Montgomery township, where they continued to make their home the rest of their lives. The grandfather died in 1869, at the age of eighty-four, while the grandmother passed away in 1867, in her seventy-sixth year. The great-grandmother of Mrs. Holcomb was Elizabeth (Edwards) Hull, whose husband died as a young man, leaving two sons and one daughter, Mrs. Holcomb's grandfather being one of the sons. The mother of the subject's wife was Elizabeth Nixon, whose grandfather, William Nixon, was a native of Ireland.

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### GEORGE WASHINGTON JOHNSON.

The best title one can establish to the high and generous esteem of an intelligent community is a protracted and honorable residence therein. George Washington Johnson has resided in this locality all his life and his career has been a commendable one, well deserving of being perpetuated on the pages of a historical work of the nature of the one in hand. Knowing that the county was destined to take a high rank in the productive and rich localities of the North, he applied himself very closely to his work and waited for the future to bring its rewards, and today he is one of the substantial men of his county.

George Washington Johnson, one of the most prominent farmers of Gibson county, was born January 2, 1852, two miles west of Owensville. He is the son of Levi and Louisa (Smith) Johnson. His father was born in New Harmony, Indiana, December 25, 1824, the son of George and Anna (Williams) Johnson. The Johnson family came to this state about 1807 from Virginia before the admission of the state into the Union. Levi Johnson's mother died when he was born, and a little later his father moved to Gibson county and settled in Montgomery township, where he lived the re-

mainder of his life. Levi Johnson was reared to manhood in this township and here married Louisa Smith, the daughter of Jackson W. and Martha C. (Warrick) Smith. Martha Warrick was a daughter of Captain Warrick, the celebrated hero of the battle of Tippecanoe, who fell in this memorable battle, which was fought in the fall of 1811. Her father, Jackson W. Smith, was born near Lexington, Kentucky, and came to Gibson county early in the history of the state.

From the time of his marriage Levi Johnson lived about two miles west of Owensville. He was a life-long farmer and by close application to his business he secured a very comfortable competence for his children. He took an active part in local public affairs and served two terms as township trustee. His death occurred November 25, 1904, and his widow is still living at the advanced age of eighty-five years. Mr. Johnson was an active and faithful member of the General Baptist church during all his life and always took an active interest in all the various workings of that denomination. Mr. and Mrs. Levi Johnson were the parents of six children: John W.; George W., the immediate subject of this sketch; Martha; Emma, widow of Doss Thompson; Warrick D.; Laura, who died at the age of three years.

George W. Johnson grew to maturity in Montgomery township on his father's farm. Here he lived the life of the average farmer boy, going to school in the winter seasons and working on the farm in the summer. He was united in marriage to Marovia Johnson, who was the daughter of George Buckley Johnson and Lizzie (Martin) Johnson, and was born five miles west of Owensville, her parents having come to Indiana among the first settlers of the state. Upon becoming twenty-one years of age his father gave him forty acres of land, and within a year he bought an additional forty acres, just west of Owensville, and by strict attention to his business and by thrift and frugality, he gradually increased his holdings until he is now the owner of two hundred and forty acres of fine land, and in addition to this he has bought land which he has given to his daughter.

As a young man George W. Johnson attended Asbury University, now DePauw, at Greencastle, and after leaving the university he taught school for a number of years. To Mr. and Mrs. George W. Johnson have been born two children, one son who died in infancy, and a daughter, Laura Ella, the wife of Dr. Ralph W. Emerson, who lives near her father and is the mother of seven children, Ralph Waldo, Johnson, Louisa E., John Warrick, Myron Titus and twin babies. All of the family are loyal members of the General Baptist church at Owensville. Mr. Johnson has been a member of

the Free and Accepted Masons for thirty years, and has always taken an active interest in the affairs of that fraternal organization.

Dr. Ralph Waldo Emerson, the son-in-law of George W. Johnson, was born one mile east of Owensville on October 23, 1869, the son of John W. and Nancy Jane (Knowles) Emerson. Dr. Emerson grew up on the farm near Owensville, securing his elementary education in the district schools of his county. Later he took the classical course at Union Christian College at Merom, Indiana, graduating from that institution on June 13, 1895, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. In September of the same year he entered the Eclectic Medical Institute at Cincinnati, Ohio, and graduated from that school on May 10, 1898. Ten days later he was back in Owensville, had opened his office for business in the active practice of his profession, and continued active practice for four years and a half. In 1903 he discontinued his practice owing to ill health and retired to the farm, where he has continued to reside since. In his practice he was building up rapidly a good reputation for himself as a physician. He was well prepared for a general practitioner and had his health permitted him to continue in the practice he would undoubtedly have become one of the prominent physicians of his county.

On August 28, 1898, Mr. Johnson was married to Laura Ella Johnson, the daughter of George W. and Marovia Johnson, who are represented in the foregoing pages. The whole family are very much interested in music. Mrs. Emerson took a musical course at Oakland City College and graduated in both the vocal and instrumental departments. Every one in the family plays on some musical instrument. The youngest son, at the age of eight years, plays a cornet and has the reputation of being the youngest cornetist in the state; Wash Johnson plays the slide trombone, and the family assist in the orchestra of the General Baptist church. Mr. and Mrs. Emerson are the owners of one hundred and eighty-eight acres of fine land in this county and Mr. Emerson also farms his father-in-law's land of two hundred and twenty acres, making a total of four hundred acres operated by Doctor Emerson. Agriculture has always been an honored vocation from the earliest ages and men of education are turning to the farm in increasing numbers every year. The free out-door life of the farm has a decided tendency to foster and develop that independence of mind and self-reliance which characterize true manhood. It has always been the fruitful soil from which has sprung the moral bone and sinew of the country. Mr. Emerson is leading a life characterized by perseverance and energy and commands the confidence and respect of the people of the community in which he lives.

## CLAUDE A. SMITH.

In a brief sketch of any living citizen it is difficult to do him exact and impartial justice, not so much, however, for lack of space or words to set forth the familiar and passing events of his personal history, as for want of the rounded conception of his whole life, which grows, develops and ripens, like fruit, to disclose its truest and best flavor only when it is mellowed by time. Daily contact with the man so familiarizes us with his virtues that we ordinarily overlook them and commonly underestimate their possessor. The man whose name stands at the head of this sketch has already won for himself an enviable reputation as a lawyer in a community noted for the high order of its legal talent, and being still in the first flush of manhood, of undoubted honor and integrity, has before him great opportunities in his chosen profession.

Claude A. Smith was born July 26, 1881, at Owensville, Gibson county, Indiana, the son of John F. and Cleo (Bird) Smith, both natives of Gibson county. John F. Smith was born in Montgomery township, Gibson county, December 25, 1853, where he passed his entire life. In 1889, together with Richard P. McGinnis, he organized the Owensville Bank. From the first he served as its cashier and remained in that capacity, retaining his interest in the bank until his death. This was the first bank in that (Montgomery) township. Mr. Smith was an active member of the Knights of Pythias and was serving as chancellor commander of his lodge at the time of his death, in September, 1893.

Claude A. Smith's parental grandfather was Noah Smith, who lived to be eighty-four years old and died some six or seven years ago. He was a farmer all his life. His wife was Patsy Benson, a member of one of the finest families of the county.

Mrs. John F. Smith, widowed mother of the subject of this sketch, makes her home in Owensville, Indiana, where she has lived all her life. She is the mother of one other child, Mabel, the wife of Lynn Lucas, furniture dealer of Princeton. Jacob F. Bird, maternal grandfather of the subject, still resides in Owensville at the ripe old age of eighty-six. He was the first county superintendent of Gibson county and is said to have started the first school in Montgomery township. He was a member of the Indiana Legislature fifty years ago.

Claude A. Smith attended the primary and high schools of Owensville, graduating from the latter in 1900. Having chosen the law as his profession,

he then matriculated in the Indiana State University, from which he was graduated in 1903 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. He attended Columbia University, New York City, for special training in his chosen profession, was admitted to the bar in 1905, and after his graduation from Columbia University in 1906, took up the practice of law in Princeton.

On July 23, 1907, he was united in marriage to Phoebe Barnard, daughter of G. W. Barnard, of Oakland City. Mrs. Smith is the daughter of Grove W. and Maria (Teel) Barnard, her father being a native of Connecticut and her mother of this county. Grove W. Barnard came to this county when grown and taught school for some time; but later engaged in the milling business at Oakland City, where he was killed in 1892. He was an active Democrat and had been the county chairman of his party.

Mr. Smith is a member of the time-honored body of Master Masons, and an active and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically, his convictions are with the Republican party. An energetic and upright young man, Mr. Smith possesses those qualities which make a man a representative citizen in whatsoever locality his lot may fall.

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#### W. L. ROBBINS.

The true measure of individual success is determined by what one has accomplished. An enumeration of those men who have succeeded in their special vocations in Gibson county, and at the same time are impressing their personalities on the community, men who are conferring honor on the locality in which they reside, would be incomplete were there failure to make specific mention of the gentleman whose name initiates this paragraph, for he is an important factor in the business life of his community. The splendid success which has come to him has been the direct result of the salient points in his character, for, with a mind capable of laying judicious plans and a will strong enough to carry them into execution, his energy, foresight and perseverance have carried him forward to a position in the front rank of the successful business men of his community. He has carried to successful completion whatever he has undertaken, and his business methods have ever been in strict conformity with the standards and ethics of commercial life. He has taken an intelligent interest in the civic life of the community and has earned the high regard in which he is held by all who know him.

W. L. Robbins was born at Paoli, Orange county, Indiana, March 20, 1838, the son of David and Arrianna (Gillum) Robbins. David Robbins was born August 22, 1812, and his wife, a native of Chatham county, North Carolina, was born February 11, 1809, their marriage taking place January 22, 1835. The father of David Robbins was Nathaniel Robbins, who came from Pennsylvania to Orange county, Indiana, at an early date, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits all his life.

The subject of this brief review was the second of seven children, four of whom are still living. His boyhood days were spent in Orange county, where he attended the district school for a period of only forty-nine days altogether and helped in the work of the farm until he reached his legal majority. In 1860 he was united in marriage to Mary A. Tate, to which union were born three children, namely: Alice E., deceased; Hettie and Dessie May died in infancy. After his marriage, Mr. Robbins continued agricultural pursuits, specializing in the raising, buying and selling of hogs. In 1862, owing to the unsettled condition of business due to the Civil war, the subject lost all he possessed. However, his indomitable spirit rose superior to reverses, and he continued farming until 1870, at which time he removed to Gibson county and located in Hazleton, where for several years he was employed by Jarvis Hazleton in the lumber business. In 1881 he rented a saw mill from Mr. Hazleton and went into business on his own account. This business, prospering, he continued in it until 1902, having in the meantime worn out two saw mills.

The second marriage of the subject occurred on April 27, 1882, when he was united in the holy bonds of matrimony with Sallie Williams, daughter of Eli A. and Margaret M. (Hartin) Williams, the former a native of North Carolina, who died in October, 1882, at the age of seventy-two years, and the latter a native of South Carolina, who died in 1892, at the age of seventy-four years. The mother's family moved to Indiana about 1830 and located in Princeton. The father was actively engaged as a carpenter and builder in Princeton during his lifetime. Mrs. Robbins was educated in the public schools of Princeton and at the age of sixteen years engaged in teaching, which she continued up to the time of her marriage in 1882, teaching twenty-three terms and missing but one year during that time, this being due to ill health.

During his highly successful career in the lumber business, Mr. Robbins confined himself exclusively to the best grades of timber, mostly walnut and oak. By careful and systematic attention to the details of his business he



became highly successful and gained a reputation for being an ideal employer. He always made it a point when placing an employe in a certain position to hold him responsible for the work of his department, never interfering so long as results were forthcoming in a satisfactory manner. In the subject's boyhood days, while he was working out for others, he had many trying experiences, especially in the matter of securing his wages after they were earned. At that time he resolved that should he ever engage in business for himself he would see to it that his employes received their money when it was due, and it is his proud boast that in the twenty-one years he was in business he missed but two Saturday nights in making up the pay roll, and those were occasions when he was ill. It is a testimonial to his good standing in the business world that when, in 1884, the spring thaw came suddenly and carried away his logs, leaving him practically without a dollar, he went right ahead, his good name tiding him over and comparatively few knew how heavily his misfortune had borne upon him.

While the subject's early education was very meager, he has by close observation and reading become a man well grounded in the general knowledge of the world, the practical kind that is really worth while. In brief, Mr. Robbins has, by his own hands, carved out a place for himself in his community that has gained for him the respect of his fellow men. Mr. and Mrs. Robbins are faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mrs. Robbins' mother belonged to the Friends church. Mr. Robbins has been a staunch Democrat all his life, but never a candidate for any office.

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### JOHN DAVID SMITH.

Among the enterprising and progressive citizens of Gibson county, none stands higher in the esteem of his fellow citizens than the gentleman whose name forms the caption of this sketch. He has long been actively engaged in agricultural pursuits in this county and the years of his residence here have but served to strengthen the feeling of admiration on the part of his fellow men owing to the honorable life he has led and the worthy example he has set the younger generation, consequently the publishers of this biographical compendium are glad to give such a worthy representation in this work.

John David Smith, of Crowleyville, Wabash township, Gibson county, is a native of the Hoosier state, having been born in Posey county, Indiana, January 16, 1865, and is the son of Richard Smith and Jane (Medows)



Smith. Richard Smith was a son of Adam Smith, who came from Virginia about the year 1829, when Richard was about five years of age. They settled in the south edge of Montgomery township, Gibson county, along Black river, being among the early settlers of that section. Here Richard Smith grew to manhood and here he was married to Jane Medows, who was a native of Kentucky, having been born and reared near Cynthiana, that state. After his marriage Mr. Smith moved to a farm near Stewartsville, which he operated until the outbreak of the Civil war, when he responded to the call of his country for defenders and served faithfully throughout that great struggle, taking part in many of the great battles of that conflict, receiving severe wounds in the leg and being taken prisoner at one time. He was a loyal and brave soldier and at the close of the war was mustered out and given an honorable discharge, and returning to his home again took up agricultural pursuits. He moved to the Kendle farm, two and one-half miles south of Crowleyville, in Wabash township, this county, now owned by Harmon Siegert, and here he spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring on this place. He was a life-long farmer, devoted to his chosen calling, of which he made a distinct success, and was highly respected by his fellow agriculturists and all with whom he came in contact. In politics he was a Democrat, while both he and his wife were earnest and faithful members of the Baptist church. To them were born six children: Mary, deceased, the wife of Henry Carbaugh, spent her life in Wabash township, this county; Olletha died at the age of twenty-two; Isaac Newton died on December 22, 1912, and also was a life-long resident of Wabash township; John D., the immediate subject of this sketch; Lewis Marshall, of Kennsburg, Illinois; Alfred Clinton resides in the state of Washington. The father of these children died in May, 1886, at the age of sixty-two years.

John David Smith was reared under the parental roof, securing his education in the common schools of his neighborhood, and in his early life worked at farm labor between school seasons. In April, 1887, at the age of twenty-two, he was married to Rhoda Smith, who was a daughter of William and Mary Ann (Picketts) Smith, who had moved from Warrick county, Indiana, to Wabash township, this county, in an early day, and to this union were born three children, namely: Della, who was the wife of Thomas Tillet and died at Grayville; Edgar died at the age of seven years, and Mary is still at home with her father. The mother of these children died in 1898, and on October 22, 1908, Mr. Smith was married to Mrs. Mary A. Williams, who was born in Harmony township, Posey county, Indiana, the daughter of

William and Elizabeth (De Foster) Hunget. Her parents were early settlers of Posey county, her father having come there from South Carolina fifty-nine years ago, at the age of ten years, while her mother's birth occurred near Bowling Green, Kentucky, and she lived at that place until her marriage to Mr. Hunget. Mrs. Smith lived in Posey county until her marriage to Mr. Smith. Her first husband was John Shull, and they were the parents of two children, Martha E., who lives with her mother, and Mahala, who died at the age of five years. After Mr. Shull's death his widow married Riley R. Williams, who is also deceased.

For the past seven years Mr. Smith has been engaged in the general mercantile business at Crowleyville, and is well known all over this section of the county. He carries a good line of general merchandise, and while his store is not a large one, he does a thriving business, and in July, 1913, also established a store at Johnson's Station, and is now conducting both stores, meeting with very satisfactory success in this line. He is a Democrat in politics, and takes an active part in all public affairs of his community. In 1908 he was elected assessor of Wabash township for the term of four years, and because of legislative changes in the law governing his term of office, he continues to hold the office for two more years, making a term of six years. He is discharging the duties of this important office to the eminent satisfaction of his constituents and is one of the popular, enterprising and alert citizens of his community.

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### THEODORE FLEMING THOMAS.

A review of the life of the honored subject of this review must of necessity be brief and general in its character. To enter fully into the interesting details of the career of Theodore Thomas Fleming, touching the struggles of his early manhood and the successes of his later years would far transcend the limits of this article. He has filled a large place in the ranks of the public-spirited citizens of his day, and that he has done his part well can not be gainsaid, for his record has been such as has gained for him the commendation and approval of his fellows. His career has been a long, busy and useful one and he has contributed much to the material, civic and moral advancement of the community, while his admirable qualities of head and heart and the straightforward course of his daily life has won for him the esteem and confidence of the circles in which he has moved.

Theodore Fleming Thomas was born May 22, 1857, in Princeton, Indiana, the son of James and Cynthea (Key) Thomas, the former having been born in London, England, and the latter in Gibson county, Indiana, near the town of Princeton. The Christian name of subject's paternal grandfather is unknown, although efforts have been made a number of times to ascertain it, there being considerable of an estate to which subject would be entitled were he able to clear up this genealogical phase. It is only known that the grandfather was a resident of London, England. James Thomas, father of the subject of this biography, was a prominent civil engineer in England, having been foreman during the construction of one of the large bridges built over the Thames river. The family at that time consisted of two brothers and a sister. When James Thomas and his brother came to America the sister remained in England. On arriving in New York, the two brothers separated, subject's father coming to Princeton, Indiana, at an early date, where he located and engaged in the manufacture of firearms, he being an extraordinarily proficient gunsmith. In those pioneer days, before the advent of labor-saving machinery, almost everything was done by hand, and, it must be admitted, done in a more thorough and workmanlike manner than is the case nowadays. James Thomas, it is affirmed, made the best of guns complete, lock, stock and barrel, and built up a thriving business for those days. His natural genius as a mechanic won him a reputation far and wide, and a few of the firearms made by him are still preserved and highly prized by their owners. He was thus actively engaged until the time of his death, at the age of seventy-six years, his death occurring while he was living with his son at Owensville, Gibson county.

James Thomas was twice married, and to the first marriage were born two children, Franklin and Helen. Franklin was a gunsmith and lived at Washington, Indiana, where he died in 1862, single. He willed ten thousand dollars to the Cumberland Presbyterian church. He made lots of guns and was a celebrated workman. The daughter, Helen, died at Sparta, Illinois, several years ago.

To James and Cynthea Thomas were born seven children, namely: Henry died in 1874; Mary, who married Henry Geisky, is now deceased; David is making his home in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; William is deceased; Susannah married Harry Pigman and lives in Cincinnati, Ohio; the subject; Della married Frank Kightly and lives in White River township, Gibson county.

The subject spent his boyhood days in Princeton, where he attended the

district schools, after completing which he took up the task of learning the blacksmithing trade in the shop of Thomas Ewing and Henry Geisky. Upon completing his apprenticeship, he went to Louisville, Kentucky, where he worked at his trade for three years, learning the construction of engines and general machine work. Returning to Princeton, in 1882, he saw an opening for his talents in the town of Hazleton, and there he started in business on his own account. He has steadily increased his business, now handling farm implements of all kinds and having a machine shop in connection, where all varieties of repair work are done.

In November, 1878, Theodore Fleming Thomas was united in marriage with Berninnia Shreves, of Decker Station, Knox county, Indiana, daughter of John W. Shreves, a native of Scotland. To this union have been born nine children, namely: Oliver Morton resides in St. Louis and is superintendent of the Western Union Telegraph office there; Fay E. married Cleveland Morgan, of Atlanta, Georgia, where they reside; John F. is connected with his father's business; Louis R. is train dispatcher for the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton railroad at Indianapolis; Leslie A. is now in Evansville, Indiana, and is assistant foreman of the Vulcan Plow Company; Franklin L. is employed by the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad Company as assistant agent and operator at Hazleton, Indiana; Blanche, May and Dale are still under the paternal roof.

Fraternally, Mr. Thomas is a member of the blue lodge of the Masonic fraternity, while in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows he has been through all the chairs and has been honored by selection a number of times as delegate to the grand lodge. He is a member of the city council, of which body he has served as president. Politically, he was a stanch Democrat, while in his religious belief, he was a loyal member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

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#### WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON DE PRIEST.

The office of biography is not to give voice to a man's modest estimate of himself and his accomplishments, but rather to leave upon the record the verdict establishing his character by the consensus of opinion on the part of his friends and neighbors. The life of the honorable subject of this review has been such as to elicit just praise from those who know him best, owing to the fact that he has always been loyal to trusts imposed upon him and has

been upright in his dealings with his fellow men, at the same time lending his support to the advancement of any cause looking to the welfare of the community at large.

William Henry Harrison De Priest was born August 20, 1841, in Gibson county, Indiana, the son of George W. De Priest, a native of Bowling Green, Kentucky, and Julia (Foster) DePriest, who was born near Fort Branch, Gibson county. The grandparents of the subject on the paternal side were William and Nancy DePriest, who came from the state of Mississippi over one hundred years ago and settled in Bowling Green, Kentucky, later removing to Gibson county, where they entered government land near Fort Branch. Here they spent the remainder of their days engaged in farming. The subject's father assisted on the home farm and after the death of his parents he took charge of the estate and energetically applied himself to the development of the land. As an example of his energy, it is cited that he taught school for a period of six months in 1840 in order to get money to pay a man for getting out logs, he doing the building himself. This house is still standing and is occupied by his widow, who was his third wife. The father only lived to be forty-five years of age. He was very successful in life, starting with but forty acres given him by his father, and at the time of his death being the owner of a farm of five hundred acres, he having cleared over two hundred acres. He was a man of great energy, and was a strong Democrat, the subject having been named after William Henry Harrison. He was well informed, a ready debater, and was urged many times by his friends to run for Congress, but could never be persuaded to do so.

The subject of this review was the oldest of a family of four children. He lived on the home farm until 1875, when, owing to poor health, he sold out and came to Hazleton, where he engaged in general merchandising. His business prospering, he added a grain elevator, which burned down about 1883, and about two years later his store was also destroyed by fire. Going to Princeton, he was engaged in clerking for five years, after which he returned to Hazleton and engaged in the grain business. Five years was spent in this line, he then going into the drug business with his brother at Hazleton. After the brothers organized a mill, Mr. DePriest again returned to the farm of his brother, where he acted as superintendent until 1898, when he was appointed postmaster at Hazleton. He has given such universal satisfaction both to the postal authorities and the general public that he has been appointed to the same position at the end of each four-year term. His genial manner has won for him a host of friends and acquaintances, among whom

he is familiarly known as "Uncle Billy." In connection with his duties as postmaster, he has a nice assortment of stationery, pencils, postcards, etc., and enjoys a good patronage. He has had more than his share of the ups and downs of life, but every reverse has found him bobbing serenely up ready for another battle, never disposed to quarrel with his fate.

Fraternally, the subject is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Hazleton, being affiliated with the blue lodge, and he is also an active worker in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church at Hazleton, Indiana.

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### THEODORE W. CRAWFORD.

Specific mention is made of many of the worthy citizens of Gibson county within the pages of this book, citizens who have figured in the growth and development of this favored locality, and whose interests are identified with its every phase of progress, each contributing in his sphere of action to the well-being of the community in which he resides and to the advancement of its moral and legitimate growth. Among this number is Theodore W. Crawford, one of the leading farmers of Montgomery township, Gibson county, Indiana.

Theodore W. Crawford is a native of this county, having been born at Oakland City August 28, 1861, the son of James Lawrence and Annie (Townsend) Crawford. James Lawrence Crawford was born at Owensville, the son of Holly and Delia (Dimick) Crawford. Holly Crawford was a native of the state of New York and in 1816, when a young man, he journeyed westward to Indiana, arriving at Vincennes about the time the Indians were bought out and driven further westward. He remained but a short time, returning to New York, but in 1818 came back to this state to stay. Before returning to Indiana he went to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where he joined several families coming out to Indiana. These were the Dimicks, the Runnels and the Townsends. They built a flat boat, which was launched on the Ohio river at Pittsburgh and conveyed themselves and their possessions to their new home. The Dimicks settled at Princeton, and there are now cabinet makers of the name who are descendants of these pioneers. Holly Crawford also came to Princeton, and at that time it was only a little village, struggling to assume metropolitan airs. Holly Crawford was a carpenter

and his labor helped to form many of the homes built in early days. He also helped to build the old mill on the creek south of the town square. He later moved to Owensville and lastly to Oakland City, where he came to possess some five or six hundred acres of land. This he farmed, or that portion which was cleared, and here he died. James Lawrence Crawford was about sixteen years old when his father took up his residence at Oakland City, and he lived the remainder of his life on the land which his father had owned, following in the footsteps of his worthy father. Holly Crawford had for many years been justice of the peace and a man much admired and respected. James Lawrence was comparatively young when he became an elder in the Cumberland Presbyterian church, and gave many years to that service, doing all in his power to further that society's interests. He took as his wife Annie M. Townsend, born about three miles north of Princeton, a daughter of Dean Townsend, whose father came from Pittsburgh with Holly Crawford. She still lives on the old Crawford homestead near Oakland City.

Theodore W. Crawford grew up on the old home place, attending the country schools and later the high school at Oakland City, from which he was graduated. In 1884 he united in marriage with Mary E. Jones, sister of John W. Jones and daughter of Franklin Jones, deceased, sketches of whose lives appear elsewhere in this volume. For about five years after his marriage Mr. Crawford continued to reside in Oakland City, and at that time purchased a farm about three miles southwest of Owensville, where he now resides and where he owns in all some two hundred acres of fine farm land. Mr. and Mrs. Crawford are the parents of five children, namely: Eva, Frank L.; Opha, who is the wife of Lowell Mauck, and lives within two miles of her father's home; Minnie J. and Delia, who graduated from the Owensville high school in the spring of 1914. All of the family except Opha are at home. Minnie, however, is at present attending State Normal School at Terre Haute, Indiana.

Politically, Mr. Crawford is a staunch supporter of the Republican party. He is not a seeker after office for himself, but wields a definite influence in the party campaigns. Fraternally, he is a member of the time-honored order of Freenasonry, in which he has taken all of the York Rite work except the Knight Templar degree. Religiously, he is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church and gives this society his liberal support. Mr. Crawford is a man of large views and broad sympathies, and no movement for the advancement of his community has ever solicited his aid in vain, for he believes in progress all along the line of material effort and his interests are always



in harmony with the highest and best interests of his fellow citizens. Genial and unassuming in manner, he has a host of friends throughout Gibson county.

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### WILLIAM H. THORNE.

The success of men in business or any vocation depends upon character as well as upon knowledge, it being a self-evident proposition that honesty is the best policy. Business demands confidence and where that is lacking business ends. In every community some men are known for their upright lives, strong common sense and moral worth rather than for their wealth of political standing. Their neighbors and acquaintances respect them, the younger generations heed their examples, and when they "wrap the drapery of their couches about them and lie down to pleasant dreams" posterity listens with reverence to the story of their quiet and useful lives. Among such men of a past generation in Indiana was the late William H. Thorne, who was not only a progressive man of affairs, successful in material pursuits, but a man of modest and unassuming demeanor, well educated, a fine type of the reliable, self-made American, a friend to the poor, charitable to the faults of his neighbors and who always stood ready to unite with them in every good work and active in the support of laudable public enterprises. He was a man who in every respect merited the high esteem in which he was universally held, for he was a man of public spirit, intellectual attainments and exemplary character.

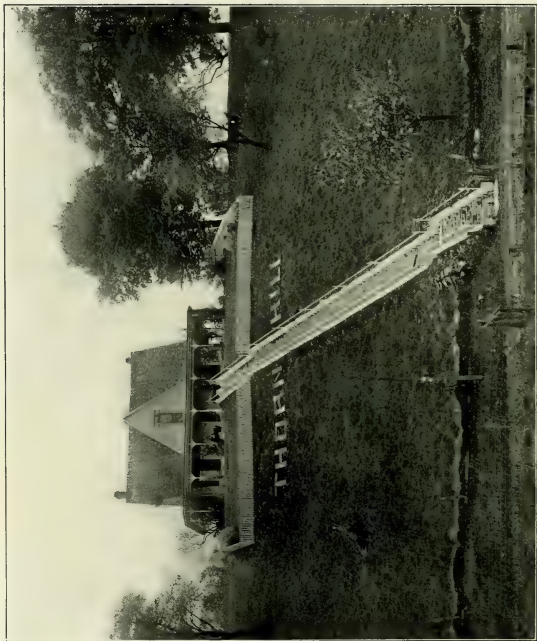
William H. Thorne was born in Culpeper county, Virginia, April 26, 1823, the son of Thomas Thorne. He was married in 1842 to Jemima Cain, also of Virginia. He died in 1902, his wife having passed away a few months before.

The Thornes were a prominent family in Virginia. At the outbreak of the Civil war William H. Thorne was engaged in farming, his estate being located in Wirt county, West Virginia, a tract that had been cleared and improved by the subject, and here were born eight children. At the commencement of the Civil war their sympathies were with the South, although they were opposed to slavery.

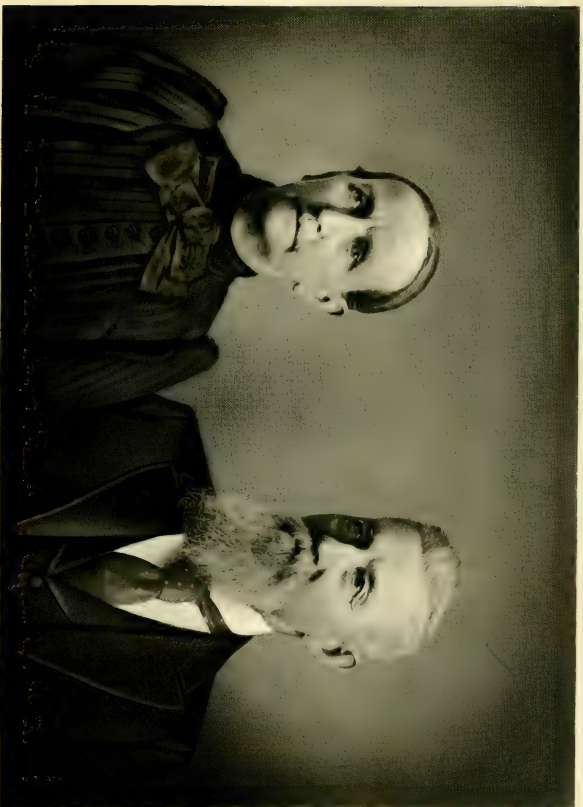
At the close of the war the family removed to Indiana, arriving on March 11, 1865, and locating at Hazelton, Gibson county, where the subject acquired three hundred acres of land adjoining the town, a portion of which has become town property known as Thorne's addition, on which he erected







THORN HILL, RESIDENCE OF MRS. MARTHA CROWE, HAZELTON.



*Mr. and Mrs. William Thorne*



the residence at present occupied by his daughters and known as Thorne Hill. The subject of this review served twelve years as justice of the peace at Hazelton and was a man highly respected and honored, he being a gentleman of the old Southern school.

To the subject and wife were born eight children, namely: Lunsford was a member of Company E, Thirty-sixth Virginia Regiment, Breckenridge's division. Early's corps; he was captured by the Federals, but was pardoned and eventually he joined his family and came to Indiana; Zadock, deceased; Mary Margaret married Dr. M. M. Morgan, and both are now deceased; William Wirt, deceased; Theodore T. is a successful merchant in Hazelton; Esther Jane; Martha A., now Mrs. Crowe, resides on Thorne Hill; Lillie Belle. Esther Jane, mentioned above, is the widow of W. S. Kelley, who was a prominent attorney of Chicago. They made their home in Oklahoma, where Mrs. Kelley has considerable property. Her son, Wayne Scott Kelley, is the author of a number of popular stories, he writing under the nom de plume of "Six Shot Shortie." Lillie Belle married Marcellus Howard Decker and is living on part of the old home place. They have four children: Marcellus Overton, the owner of the ferry across White river; Cayula Belle, who has been teaching in the Hazelton schools for the last seven years; Alphonso and Alberta are twins. Alphonso is at home and Alberta, who married Fred B. McNiece, is living near Hazelton.

Mrs. Crowe and her sister, Mrs. Kelley, who occupy the residence, "Thorne Hill," are great lovers of books, are broad-minded in their views and are ladies of exceeding culture.

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#### HENRY P. PHILLIPS.

There is no positive rule for achieving success, and yet in the life of the successful man there are always many lessons which might well be followed. The man who gains prosperity is he who can see and utilize the opportunities that come in his path. The essential conditions of human life are ever the same, the surroundings of individuals differing but slightly, and when one man passes another on the highway of life to reach the goal of prosperity before others who perhaps started out before him, it is because he has the power to use advantages which probably encompass the whole human race.

Today among the prominent citizens and successful business men of Hazleton, Gibson county, Indiana, stands Henry P. Phillips. The qualities of keen discrimination, sound judgment and executive ability enter very largely into his make-up and have been contributing elements to the material success which has come to him.

Henry P. Phillips was born near Union, Pike county, Indiana, October 23, 1864, the son of John G. and Mary J. (Sullivan) Phillips, both natives of Gibson county, he of Washington township, and she of near Hazleton. The father of John Phillips was also named John. John Phillips, Sr., was of Irish stock and after coming to America he settled in North Carolina and after living there for a short time, removed to Tennessee. But a brief period was spent in that state, the grandfather's family soon removing to Indiana and locating in Gibson county. Here they spent the rest of their days, the grandfather reaching the age of seventy. The father of the subject of this review continued the work of cultivating the home place until his death occurred April 29, 1868.

To John G. and Mary J. Phillips were born the following children: William Franklyn died at the age of fifteen years; Nannie is the wife of J. P. L. Weems, an attorney at Vincennes, Indiana; the subject, and a child that died in infancy. The mother, after the death of the father, was married to Fred Gowen and lives at Giro, Indiana.

The subject of this sketch spent his boyhood days in Washington township in the northern part of the county. On September 16, 1892, he was married to Zora Brice, of Hazleton, Indiana the daughter of William Brice, a pioneer of Gibson county. To this union have been born eight children, namely: Ruth, who is a teacher in White River township; Grace, living at home, is a music teacher; Mary, Cecil, Edith, Maurice and Brice are in school; Frank died in infancy.

After the subject's marriage he was engaged in the operation of a portable saw mill for some years, but the timber in the community becoming scarcer each year, he decided to locate permanently in Hazleton, where he established his present business in 1902. Here a large local business has been built up, he handling a large amount of Southern pine, most of his other grades of lumber also coming from the South. In addition to his large lumber business, he also handles cement, plaster and building materials. Mr. Phillips has conducted his business on a plane that has won for him a respected place in the commercial world, and has gained for him an enviable position among the public-spirited and progressive citizens of Gibson county. His residence, at

the corner of Brown and Second streets, adjoining his lumber yard, is all that a modern home should be, and a spirit of genuine hospitality pervades it at all times.

Mr. Phillips efficiently served his township as trustee for the four years from 1905 until 1909. Fraternally, he is a past master in the Masonic blue lodge, while he has passed through all the chairs in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

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### JAMES S. MOWRY.

One of the conspicuous names on the list of Gibson county agriculturists is James S. Mowry, a gentleman of high standing, to whom has not been denied a full measure of success. Long recognized as a factor of importance in connection with the farming and stock raising industries here, he has been prominently identified with the material growth and prosperity of this part of the state, his life having been closely interwoven with the history of the county where he has been content to live and follow his chosen vocation for nearly three-quarters of a century.

James S. Mowry was born September 10, 1839, in Montgomery township, Gibson county, the son of Jacob and Margaret (Summers) Mowry, the father being born in 1778 in Shenandoah county, Virginia, the mother being also a native of the Old Dominion.

Jacob Mowry, father of the subject, came to Indiana with his parents in pioneer days, they first locating in Harrison county, and later removed to Gibson county, settling in Montgomery township, where land was purchased and a home place established. Here subject's father spent his entire life. He died in 1850, and the subject's mother passed to her reward in 1844. Jacob Mowry was twice married and to the first union were born five children. By his second marriage eight children were born, namely: George, now deceased, a farmer in Gibson county; Delila, also deceased, the wife of Nelson Johnson; Polly, deceased, married James Sargent; Margaret first married William King and then John Alsop, and she is now deceased; Robert died in Illinois; Anna, deceased, the wife of Thomas Newcomb; Ella, deceased; the subject. Jacob Mowry, the subject's father, was an expert millwright and in politics gave his support to the Democratic party.

James Mowry's chances for obtaining an education were very meager, his only schooling being one short three-months term. At the age of seven years he was bound out to Joseph Wasson for a year and a half, after which

he lived with Abram Mauck, Sr., until he reached his fifteenth year, when, Mr. Mauck dying, he took up his abode with a cousin, Joseph Summers. Remaining with Mr. Summers for four years, the subject struck out for himself and engaged in farm work for about a year, when, the Civil war breaking out, he enlisted in the army, his service beginning August 6, 1861, as a member of Company F, Thirty-third Indiana Volunteer Infantry. After being recruited to full war strength in Princeton, the company left for Indianapolis, where the regiment was organized and outfitted, and in a short time sent to Lexington, Kentucky, where they took part in the battle of Wild Cat. From this point the command to which Mr. Mowry was attached was dispatched to Tennessee, and at Thompson's Station, Tennessee, Mr. Mowry was captured and sent to Libby prison for thirty-nine days. However, he was fortunate in being among the early exchanges, and was taken to City Point and from there to Annapolis, Maryland, by boat. Here he was granted a ten days' furlough and returned to Indianapolis and then home for a brief visit. At the expiration of his leave of absence, Mr. Mowry, in June, 1863, rejoined his comrades at Franklin, Tennessee, and was engaged in the Atlanta campaign, receiving an honorable discharge from his country's service at Atlanta, Georgia, in September, 1864. While in the army Mr. Mowry contracted rheumatism, from which he has since suffered a great deal.

The subject of this review has been twice married. His first marriage occurred May 28, 1863, to Ophelia Hanks, daughter of James S. and Rose (McMullen) Hanks, who came to Gibson county, Indiana, in 1810, and located in Patoka township, one and one-half miles southwest of Princeton. The parents of subject's wife are now deceased, and she died March 9, 1905. Mr. Mowry's first union was blessed by the birth of four children: Sarah D., deceased; Oscar F., a farmer in Patoka township, who married Anna Dakin; William, a printer in Princeton, who married Isabelle Able; Ross, who died in his twelfth year.

In November, 1907, the subject was united in marriage to Maria L. Kendel, the widow of James M. Kendel, a farmer of Patoka township, who died in 1868. By her first marriage Mrs. Kendel had two children: Perry A. is a farmer in Morris county, Kansas, and married Emma Chastine; Catherine Elizabeth married Ulysses Collins, of Chicago, Illinois.

Subject's second wife was a daughter of Frederick and Elizabeth (Calvin) Brown. Her father, Frederick Brown, was born in 1787 in Pennsylvania, and her mother was a native of Kentucky. He first located in Greene county, Tennessee, after leaving his home state, later removing to Harrison



county, Indiana, in 1811, and then to Gibson county, about 1840, settling in Patoka township, where he followed agricultural pursuits until his death. He first married Sarah Kohl, of Tennessee, and to this union were born seven children: David, Mary Ann, Daniel, John, Elizabeth, Abraham and Kate. By her father's second marriage Mrs. Mowry was the only child.

At the close of the Civil war James S. Mowry located in Patoka township, southwest of Princeton, and purchased land, which he farmed for some years. He removed to Princeton in 1869, and then located at his present place, known as "Taft Town," a short distance northeast of the city, where he bought a small place and has since resided. For many years Mr. Mowry worked at the carpenter's trade, and later was in the grocery business in Princeton for six years.

Mrs Mowry's grandfather, George Brown, was a soldier in the American Revolution, serving in the Colonial army for eight years. Her mother was first married to William Cochran, a Gibson county farmer, and they were the parents of eight children: Joseph H., James W., Nancy, Mary Ann, Jane, Cynthia, William and Melinda. Mrs. Mowry was born December 18, 1842.

James S. Mowry belongs to Post No. 28, Grand Army of the Republic, at Princeton, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, while his wife belongs to the General Baptist church.

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### SAMUEL O. MARVEL.

To a great extent the prosperity of the agricultural sections of our country is due to the honest industry, the sturdy persistence, the unswerving perseverance and the wise economy which so prominently characterize the farming element of the Hoosier state. Among this class may be mentioned Samuel O. Marvel, the subject of this life record, who by reason of years of indefatigable labor and honest effort, has not only acquired a well-merited material prosperity, but has also richly earned the highest esteem of all with whom he is associated. On his farm of one hundred and eighty-two acres of well located land in Montgomery township, this county, he carries on general farming and stock raising in a manner that attests his business ability.

Samuel O. Marvel was born in 1849 in the southern portion of Montgomery township, in the vicinity of his present home. He is the son of James, born in 1803, but the place of whose birth is doubtful. His father,

Prettyman Marvel, removed from their original home in Delaware to Georgia, and it is uncertain whether James was born before or after their move, but it is probable Georgia was his birthplace. However, he was but a small child when his father, Prettyman Marvel, and family came to Gibson county, settling first where Fort Branch now is (that was in 1808), and in 1811 entered the land where the immediate subject of this sketch now lives, and lived there to a good old age. The last year or two of Prettyman Marvel's life was spent in Illinois, whither he had journeyed to see a son. Travel was very wearisome in those days, and as he became quite feeble while there, he was unable to make the return journey and died there in 1854.

James Marvel, who was five years old when his parents brought him to Gibson county, grew to manhood on his father's farm. He took as his wife Comfort Knowles, a native of Kentucky and the daughter of David Knowles. He came to Gibson county about 1810, and purchasing land a short distance south of where Samuel O. Marvel now resides, passed the remainder of his life there. After his marriage, James Marvel lived on his father's place, buying ground from time to time until he had accumulated some four hundred acres. They were the parents of eleven children, only three of whom are living: David, James L. and Samuel O., the immediate subject of this sketch. William K. died March 9, 1914. James Marvel and wife were consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and gave much of their time and substance to forward the cause of that denomination. He died in 1885, and her death occurred two years earlier.

Samuel O. Marvel grew to manhood on the old homestead of his father and grandfather and when a young man went to Franklin county, Illinois, where he purchased a farm and lived for about ten years. While there, in 1872, he was united in marriage with Parthena Bailey, a native of Franklin county, Illinois, daughter of James and Catherine (Launius) Bailey. In 1884 Samuel O. Marvel moved his family back to the old homestead in Montgomery township, and here he has since made his home and carried on his business. Eight children were born to the union of Samuel O. and Parthena Bailey Marvel, namely: James R., who lives near his father and whose wife was Elsie Knowles; Lewis, who remains at home with his father; David Byron, who is engaged in the hardware business at Owensville, where he resides. His wife was Ora E. Knowles and they have one daughter, Thyra C. Iola, who became the wife of Ora Rogers, lives in Arkansas and is the mother of two children, Mona and Wilbur. Minnie, who is Mrs. John Mont-

gomery, of Owensville, has one daughter, Rita. Ethel is the wife of Magnus Montgomery, who is in the hardware business in Owensville. A little daughter, Mattie, died when not quite thirteen years old and they also lost an infant son, Ralph. Parthena Bailey Marvel died in 1902, and in 1904 Mr. Marvel again married, his bride being Mary Launius, a cousin of his first wife. She was born in Franklin county, Illinois, a daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Launius.

Mr. Marvel's religious sympathies are with the Cumberland Presbyterian church, of which he is a consistent member, and Mrs. Marvel holds her church membership with the Missionary Baptist church. There is very much that is commendable in the life record of this man, for he has been found true to duty in every relation, whether of a public or private character, and while energy and industry have been salient features of his business career, he is equally well known for his uprightness and the honorable methods he has always followed, and for his loyalty to any trust reposed in him. Because of his genial and unassuming disposition and his genuine worth, he enjoys a well-deserved popularity throughout this county.

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### EWIN DALLAS HULFISH.

Among the oldest newspaper men of the state is Ewin Dallas Hulfish, who published the first newspaper ever printed in Owensville, Gibson county, Indiana. He has been actively engaged in the printing business for the last forty-five years, and is said to be the oldest active printer in the state of Indiana. He was born August 25, 1849, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and was a son of David and Rebecca (Carpenter) Hulfish. His father was a native of New Jersey and his mother was born in Philadelphia. Ewin D. Hulfish was only six years of age when his parents moved to Princeton, Indiana, and a year later settled in Owensville, in this county, where they remained for the rest of their lives. David Hulfish was a shoemaker by trade, and followed that occupation successfully throughout his life.

Ewin D. is the only child living of the seven born to his parents. He received a very limited common school education and before he was of age he learned the shoemaker's trade and also followed carriage painting for a time. By the time he was twenty-one years of age he had learned the rudiments of the printer's trade and in that same year started the publication of the *Owensville Montgomery News*, which soon suspended. He is now sole

owner and publisher of the *Star-Echo*. The paper is recognized as an influence for good in the community, as its editor uniformly takes a stand on the right side of all questions affecting the public welfare.

Mr. Hulfish was twice married, his first wife being Dora Sherrill, of McMinnville, Tennessee, to whom he was married on September 2, 1869. She was a daughter of Uriah and Charlotte (Martin) Sherrill, and to this union there was born one son, David S., who is now a resident of England, where he is employed by the British government in installing an automatic telephone exchange. Some years after the death of his first wife, Mr. Hulfish married Maggie E. Spore on May 5, 1886, the daughter of Elbert W. and Nancy (Cochran) Spore, and there were three children born to this second marriage: Stephen, who is now foreman of the *Star-Echo*, and Emma Lee and Roderick, who are still at home.

Politically, Mr. Hulfish has affiliated with the Democratic party since he became of age, and has always advocated the principles of that party. He is greatly interested in music, and organized and was leader of the first Owensville brass band. He had the honor of drawing the first check paid by an Owensville bank and also purchased the first postoffice money order which was issued by the Owensville postoffice.

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### JOHN C. GORMAN.

It is generally acknowledged fact that journalism is one of the most important factors in twentieth-century life, exerting as it does an influence on practically every department of society. This relation is just as actual and potent in the smaller cities and towns as in the large cities, and he who directs the policy of a newspaper or wields the pen which gives expression to that policy, exerts a personal control over local thought and action that is not equaled by any other profession. Among the newspaper men of Gibson county who have, by their progressive attitude toward local affairs, contributed in a very definite measure to the advancement of the community, is the gentleman whose name appears above and who is successfully publishing the *Princeton Democrat*.

John C. Gorman, the son of George W. and Mary A. (McQuaid) Gorman, was born in Owensville, Indiana, December 12, 1866. His father was a native of Connecticut and was sent west as an orphan child to Terre Haute, where he was apprenticed to a printer. After serving his apprenticeship in the



*J.C. Gorman*



Terre Haute office he went to the *Evansville Journal*, where he remained for a number of years. Upon the outbreak of the Mexican war, in 1846, he enlisted as a private and served the full two years in the war with Mexico, being mustered out as a sergeant. Upon his return he went to Owensville, where he spent the rest of his life in business. When the Civil war broke out he was still filled with the patriotic zeal which fired men of younger years and organized Company H, Seventeenth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, in Gibson county. He entered the service as a major and later was promoted to lieutenant-colonel of the same regiment. Later he resigned his commission and returned to Indiana, where he was commissioned by Governor Morton to organize the One Hundred Twentieth Mounted Infantry at Vincennes. This he accomplished to the entire satisfaction of the governor and turned over the regiment to him for mustering in, although he did not himself go with the regiment. He served two and one-half years in the Seventeenth Regiment and saw service in some of the hardest fought battles of the war. Mr. and Mrs. George W. Gorman reared a family of six children: James U., deceased; George C.; Agnes, deceased; Florence, Emma and John C. George W. Gorman died in August, 1887, his widow surviving him twenty years, her death occurring in February, 1907.

John C. Gorman was educated in the common and the high schools of Owensville, Indiana. When a small boy he started to learn the printer's trade and by the time he was through high school he had learned the mechanical end of the business. By the time he was seventeen years of age he was a full-fledged printer and able to make his living by the trade. At the age of thirteen he began to work in the office of the *Owensville Echo* and at eighteen he went to Princeton, where he entered the office of one of the papers, serving in different capacities. His first work was on the *Gibson County Leader*; from there he went to the *Princeton Democrat*; then to the *Princeton Clarion*, after which he went to Poseyville, Indiana, where he took charge of the *Poseyville News* for two years. All the time he was gaining valuable experience and perfecting himself in the management of a newspaper, and at the expiration of his two years' service in Poseyville, he returned to Owensville and purchased a job office, which he continued to operate until October, 1888, at which time he started the *Owensville Gleaner*, a weekly paper. He published this until March, 1895, when he sold it out and went to Princeton, where he purchased the *Princeton Democrat*, buying the controlling interest. He has been the controlling factor in this paper for the past nineteen years and has greatly enlarged and improved the paper in that time and is now the owner. When he

took charge of it, it only had four pages and only two of those were printed in Princeton. It is now an eight-page daily and also he issues a semi-weekly. In 1896 he moved his office and equipment to a better location and the weekly was changed to a semi-weekly, and the morning daily was made an afternoon paper. As a newspaper man he ranks among the leaders in his section of the state, and the Democratic party finds in him one of the spokesmen for the principles and policies of the party. Recently, Mr. Gorman has been recommended by the congressman from this district for the position of postmaster of Princeton.

Mr. Gorman was married in September, 1891, to Mary L. McGinnis, the daughter of James P. and Melissa (Mauck) McGinnis, both of whom were natives of Gibson county. To Mr. and Mrs. Gorman have been born three children, Helen E., Georgia and John, Jr. Mrs. Gorman died December 15, 1896. She was a lady of sterling worth, whose many kindly deeds and loving ministrations will be remembered in the neighborhood in which she lived and which was made better by her presence and influence.

Mr. Gorman is a stanch adherent of the Democratic party, and as an editor in this community he has wielded a wide influence in the councils of his party. Fraternally, he is a charter member of the Knights of Pythias at Owensville, and was one of the charter members of the lodge of Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks at Princeton and is a member of the Sons of Veterans. Personally, he is affable and popular with the people in his city and ready at all times to lend his aid to all laudable measures which have for their object the general good of the community. By a life consistent in motive and because of his many good qualities he has earned the sincere regard of all who know him, and his success in the newspaper field has been one well merited.

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#### JOHN T. ALLBRIGHT.

The office of biography is not to give voice to a man's modest estimate of himself and his accomplishments, but rather to leave upon the record the verdict establishing his character by the consensus of opinion on the part of his neighbors and fellow citizens. In touching upon the life history of the subject of this sketch the writer aims to avoid fulsome encomium and extravagant praise; yet he desires to hold up for consideration those facts which have shown the distinction of a true, useful and honorable life—a life char-



acterized by perseverance, energy, broad charity and well-defined purpose. To do this will be but to reiterate the dictum pronounced upon the man by the people who have known him long and well.

John T. Allbright was born in October, 1838, in Martin county, Indiana, the son of John W. and Eliza (Jones) Allbright, who were both natives of Martin county. The Allbright family are of German stock and settled in Pennsylvania many years ago, and members of the family have been prominent in the various localities in which they have lived. The subject's maternal ancestors were from Virginia. John W. Allbright received but a limited school education, and practically his entire life was devoted to agricultural pursuits. He died at the comparatively early age of thirty-five years, his death having been caused by an injury received at a log rolling. He was survived many years by his widow, who died at Oakland City, Indiana. They were the parents of six children, five sons and a daughter, namely: John T., the immediate subject of this sketch; David, who lives at New Harmony, Indiana; Mary, of Pittsburg, Kansas; James, deceased; Thomas, who lives in Minnesota, and Joel, of Edwardsville, Illinois.

John T. Allbright attended the schools of his home neighborhood and remained with his mother until his marriage, in 1860, when he and his wife removed to Shoals, Indiana, where they resided until 1882. While living at Shoals, Indiana, on August 14, 1862, Mr. Allbright enlisted as a private in Company A, Seventeenth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and accompanied his command to Indianapolis, where they were fitted out and were then sent south to Green river and on to Mumfordsville, Kentucky. On November 27, 1862, the subject was taken sick at Gallatin, Tennessee, and was in the hospital from December 27, 1862, until February 1, 1863. He then went back to Murfreesboro, and on June 24, 1863, was in the battle of Hoover's Gap on Duck river; then the command went to Chattanooga, where they went into camp for a while. Later they went to Ringgold, Georgia, and thence to Rock Springs, where they were detailed to guard bridges. Returning to Chattanooga and Murfreesboro, the command later went to Shelbyville, and took part in the battle at that place and then went on to near Rogersville, Alabama, from which place they returned to Pulaski. The subject then came home on furlough in January, 1864, and took the smallpox, being confined to quarters from January until April. Rejoining his regiment at Pulaski, Tennessee, he re-enlisted as a veteran and was sent to Nashville, Tennessee, where his command was assigned to General Wilson's division. The regiment went to Macon, Georgia, where they remained until the close of the war,

receiving their discharge at Nashville, Tennessee, on June 27, 1865, and at once came to Indianapolis, where they were paid off and mustered out. Mr. Allbright had many close calls from injury during his service, taking part in all of the battles in Rogers' campaign, in which his regiment participated, as far as he was able. He is now an honored member of the Grand Army post at Oakland City, Indiana. In 1887 Mr. and Mrs. Allbright moved to Oakland City, Indiana, where he followed the shoemaking and harness-making trades, which he had learned in 1857, and which he has followed during practically all of his active life. He is well known in Gibson county, where he has won a host of warm personal friends and where he has built up a large and profitable business by strict attention to his affairs and courteous treatment of his customers.

In 1860 Mr. Allbright was married to Amanda Teney, of Aurora, Indiana, and to them have been born the following children: Alice, the wife of William Cook, of Linton, Indiana; George, of Los Angeles, California, while four children died in early life. Religiously, Mr. Allbright is an earnest member of the Christian church, to which he gives a liberal support of his means and substance. Mr. Allbright is a man of splendid influence in his community, having been an industrious man and made an honorable career, setting a worthy example to the younger generation of his community. He is a public-spirited man and can always be counted on to support the right side of any movement involving the moral, educational or social welfare of his fellow citizens.

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#### WILLIAM L. LEISTER.

The subject of this sketch, William L. Leister, a well-known physician of Oakland City, Indiana, is descended from a line of sterling pioneer ancestry. His paternal grandparents, Dr. David and Elizabeth (Richey) Leister, were residents of McCracken county, Kentucky. There, in the year 1818, was born to them a son, William R., who in early youth suffered the loss of his parents by death. Thereafter he made his home with his maternal uncle, Simeon Richey, in Scott township, Vanderburg county, Indiana.

In the year 1840 William R. Leister married Mary, second daughter of William and Elizabeth (Marcus) Rogers, of Vanderburg county. To this union four children reached majority, three sons and one daughter: David R., Benjamin Franklin, William Leroy and Mary Elizabeth. Of these sons, David R. enlisted at the outbreak of the war of the Rebellion in 1861, in

Company A, Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, with which he served three years, participating in the important engagements in which his regiment took part, including the battle of Chickamauga. Soon after the close of the war he began the study and practice of medicine, making his home at Oakland City until in the year 1875, when he went to Arkansas, in which state he resided during the remainder of his life. He died at his home in Ellsworth, Logan county, Arkansas, June 12, 1901, in his sixty-first year of age.

Benjamin F. Leister was also a soldier in the Civil war, having enlisted in the summer of 1861, at Vincennes, Indiana, in Company K, Twenty-fourth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was with his regiment in all its campaigns. In the battle of Champion's Hill, Mississippi, he received a mortal wound and died on the battlefield.

William L. Leister, the immediate subject of this sketch, was born June the 14th, 1847, near the village of Lynnville, Warrick county, Indiana, where his parents resided at that time, coming with his family to Gibson county in the fall of 1854. The youth received a common school education, and owing to the calamity of total blindness which befell the senior Doctor Leister in the fall of 1863, the son was denied a complete collegiate training, but as much as possible he made amends for this deprivation. While providing subsistence for his parents and for his own family he secured the assistance of a noted teacher, Professor Lee Tomlin, then principal of the Oakland City Normal Institute, and was enabled to become proficient in English and in Latin, studying through the school years 1875, '76, '77 and '78.

Doctor Leister matriculated in the Eclectic Medical College of Cincinnati, Ohio, in the fall of 1868. After attending part of four different years, the Doctor was graduated from the above named school of medicine in June, 1884.

- September the 16th, 1869, Doctor Leister was united in marriage to Sue L. VanZandt, daughter of James and Mary Nexy (Fisher) VanZandt, pioneers of Gibson county. To this union Gail, Lloyd, Stanley, Mary Nexy and Josephine were born. In the year 1899, at Rogers, Arkansas, the wife of Doctor Leister passed away.

November 7, 1901, the Doctor married Carrie Lesbia Tubbs, daughter of Levi M. and Arvilla (Frisby) Tubbs, York state people.

In the fall of 1905 his children having settled to themselves, Doctor Leister, with his wife, returned to his old boyhood home, Oakland City, Indiana.

At present Doctor Leister is associate editor and medical book reviewer for the *American Medical Journal* of St. Louis, Missouri, having held this position the last twelve years. This well known publication is now in its forty-second year of existence.

Politically, Doctor Leister has always affiliated with the Republican party, though his professional engagements have necessarily prevented him from taking active part in political affairs. In his younger days the Doctor had been given to materialistic reasonings, but after he reached the summit of life's way, and when the shadows began to lengthen, he saw more clearly the will of the Master and more firmly believed in a happy immortality. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and gives liberal support to that society, yet he is broad in his religious views and acknowledges fellowship with all religious bodies.

In addition to his creditable career in his profession the Doctor has also proved an honorable member of the body politic, rising in the confidence and esteem of the public and in every relation of life he has never fallen below the dignity of true manhood, nor resorted in any way to methods that have invited criticism.

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### JOHN WILLIS SMITH.

Indefatigable industry, sound business judgment and wise management have been the elements which have contributed to the success achieved by John Willis Smith, enterprising and progressive farmer of Montgomery township, Gibson county, and director in the Owensville Banking Company. His farm is well improved and highly productive, being numbered among the best farms of the township in which he lives, and because of his high character and unquestioned integrity, he enjoys to a marked degree the sincere respect of the community.

John Willis Smith was born January 10, 1857, in Logan county, Illinois, near Atlanta, the son of Warrick and Margaret (Simpson) Smith. His father was originally from Gibson county, Indiana, having been born in Owensville, September 23, 1831, but directly after his marriage in 1856 he took his bride to Logan county, Illinois, with the intention of making their permanent home there. They remained there until 1868, carrying on farming and running a livery stable in the town of Atlanta, when they returned to Gibson county. Warrick Smith then purchased from his wife's father, John

C. Simpson, their old home near Owensville, and there they passed the remainder of their lives and reared their family. There were four children born to them, one dying in infancy. Of the remaining three, John Willis, the immediate subject of this sketch, is the oldest of the family, George Washington Smith is a retired farmer living in Owensville, and Lillie, the only daughter, is the wife of Charles Murnahan of the same place.

Warrick Smith, father of the subject of this sketch, was the only son of Doctor Willis J. Smith, one of the pioneer physicians of Gibson county, who came here from Danville, Kentucky, his birth-place, in early days. He was born about the year 1800, received an excellent education, finishing his medical training in Louisville, Kentucky, and came directly to Gibson county to take up his life work. He was a man of parts, broad minded and liberal beyond his time; in fact, a man many years in advance of his day and age. For several years he carried on an extensive practice over a large section, winning all with whom he came in contact through his charming personality and sterling worth. He won the friendship of the Indians who still roamed the forests hereabout and was by them considered a sort of demi-god. He died what seemed an early death for one so promising, departing this life in his thirty-sixth year. His wife was Patsy C. Warrick, daughter of Captain Jacob Warrick, whose history is closely associated with the early history of Gibson county, and who is often mentioned elsewhere in this volume.

Warrick Smith was a worthy son of his excellent father and in his time was considered a leading citizen of Montgomery township. He took an active interest in political affairs, giving his stanch support to the Democrat party, and while he never sought office for himself, was known as a man of influence. He was a member of the ancient order of Free and Accepted Masons and also a member of the General Baptist church, giving of his time and substance to further the cause of that society. His death occurred in 1902, while his wife departed this life on January 24, 1895.

John Willis Smith was eleven years old when his parents returned to Gibson county after their sojourn in Illinois, and he attended the schools of Owensville for a time after that. At the early age of twenty-one he began to show his business ability and foresight, and rented a tract of land, putting in a crop of wheat which made him excellent returns. From this he got his financial start. He purchased forty acres of swamp land, considered not valuable, but by the time he had cleared and drained it, he had an excellent piece of farming land. When this was paid for, he added other tracts from time to time until he had accumulated almost five hundred acres of bottom land.

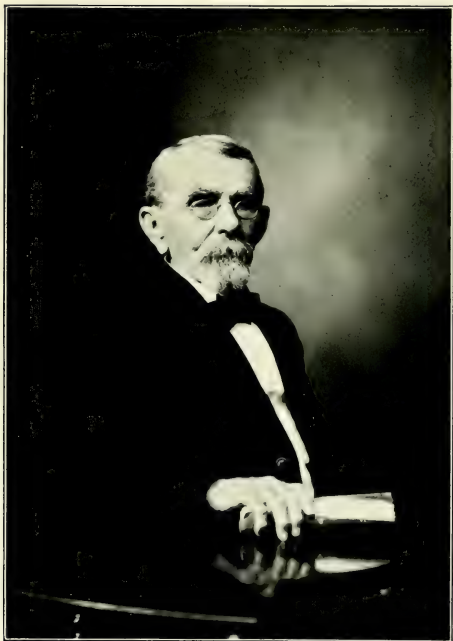
This he later sold to William Watson and in turn purchased three hundred and sixteen acres of excellent ground north of Owensville. In addition to general farming, he devotes his especial attention to the raising of pure blood Hereford cattle and has about thirty registered head. He also gives particular attention to breeding an excellent strain of Percheron draught horses. In addition to his farming and stock raising interests, he is a director of the Owensville Banking Company, which company he helped organize and in which he has been since interested.

Mr. Smith has never married. He is a member of the time-honored order of Freemasonry and politically gives his support to the Democratic party. At one time he was quite active in the affairs of that party, but of late years business has too closely claimed his attention. By his persistent advocacy of wholesome living, pure policies and honesty in business, Mr. Smith has long enjoyed the undivided respect and esteem of all who know him, being regarded as one of Gibson county's most substantial and worthy citizens, and therefore, merits representation in a work of the nature of the one at hand.

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#### WILLIAM ROY GENUNG, M. D.

The final causes which shape the fortunes of individual men and the destinies of states are often the same. They are usually remote and obscure, their influence wholly unexpected until declared by results. When they inspire men to the exercise of courage, self-denial, enterprise, industry and call into play the higher moral elements; lead men to risk all upon conviction, faith—such causes lead to the planting of great states, great nations, great peoples. That country is the greatest which produces the greatest and most manly men, and the intrinsic safety depends not so much upon methods and measures as upon that true manhood from whose deep sources all that is precious and permanent in life must at last proceed. Such a result may not be consciously contemplated by the individuals instrumental in the production of a country; pursuing each his personal good by exalted means, they work out this as a logical result; they have wrought on the lines of the greatest good. In reviewing the life of one such individual, we look back over the pathway he has trod and note its usefulness—its points worthy of emulation and perpetuation. What William Roy Genung, of Fort Branch, Indiana, has done for his fellow men and the community in general might, in a manner, be told in words, but in its far-reaching influences cannot be measured. He has



WILLIAM R. GENUNG, M. D.





been in touch with the people, and from a sincere and deep-felt interest in their welfare has labored for all that would prove of public benefit, his position as one of his county's representative citizens being cheerfully conceded by all who know him.

The genealogical record of the Genung family has been written by several of the descendants, but that written by Mary Josephine Genung, now Mrs. L. M. Nichols, of Ithaca, New York, is considered the most reliable. The name is variously spelled Genung, Ganong and Ganung being the forms most commonly used by the present generation. The Genungs now living in Gibson county are descended from Jean Guenon, who died previous to May 21, 1714. He was probably born in the province of Saintonge, France, in the vicinity of LaRochele. At the time of the persecution of the Huguenots because of their religious belief, he, with others of that faith, went to Holland, where they first settled in Leyden, later going to Amsterdam. From the latter port Jean Genong sailed on April 2, 1657, in the ship "Draevat," under Captain Bester-vaer, and after a long and tedious voyage, landed at New Amsterdam, now New York. From the fact that he was noted on the list of passengers, it is concluded that he was not a child at that time. He settled at Flushing, Long Island, and among others was credited with being a property owner in records dated October 9, 1675. His will is dated November 24, 1703, at which time he was possessed of considerable property, which he divided among his sons, giving to Jeremiah forty acres and to John twenty-nine acres, leaving the balance of his estate to his "beloved wife, Mararch." The military records contain the names of twenty-three members of this family who took part in the war of the Revolution, which is a very creditable record. Among the descendants of this emigrant and his wife was Elam Genung, son of Stephen Genung, who was born on May 27, 1796, at Genungtown (now East Madison, New Jersey), and died November 5, 1845. He was an ordained preacher of the Methodist Episcopal church, and one of the first pastors at the Mt. Horeb Methodist Episcopal church in Warren township, Somerset county, New Jersey. From September 1 to December 2, 1814, he was in the United States service as one of Captain Carter's riflemen, and eventually removed to the state of Indiana, where he died. On January 15, 1820, he was married to Elizabeth Tucker, who was born on September 8, 1801, and who died in November, 1833. She was a daughter of Joseph and Deborah (Linn) Tucker, and the mother of six children. The third in order of birth of these children was Dr. William Roy Genung, who was born in Somerset county, New Jer-

sey, on March 18, 1827. When five years of age he moved to Indiana with his parents and received his elementary education in the common schools of that frontier state. Later he became a student in old Asbury College (now DePauw University) at Greencastle, where he pursued his classical and literary education, graduating in 1845. To him now belongs the distinction of being (in 1913) the oldest living graduate of that renowned educational institution. Because of that fact he has been for over a year the holder of an alumni cane which formerly was the property of Thomas A. Goodwin, of Indianapolis, and which is to be handed down to the oldest living graduate, by whom it is to be retained the remainder of his life. At the time of the Doctor's graduation, in 1845, the finances of the college did not permit of their having an engraved diploma, the graduates in that day receiving a written certificate. In 1910, at the commencement, which the Doctor attended while the diplomas were being distributed, the Doctor remarked on the good fortune of the graduates that they had diplomas, and that they had none in his time. Thereupon the dean of the university made it his business to look up the first plate made for the college, and the Doctor was presented with a certified diploma, sixty-five years after his graduation, which gave him particular pleasure. The class of '45 has given a number of notable men to the country, among whom may be mentioned John Wesley Childs, of Kansas City, Missouri; Hon. James Harlan and others. Immediately after graduating from Asbury College, Doctor Genung took up the study of medicine under the direction of Dr. Somerville E. Leonard, of New Albany, Indiana, with whom he continued his studies until 1849, when he entered the medical department of the University of New York, and after taking three full courses, was graduated with the degree of Doctor of Medicine. Immediately afterwards he made a visit to Fort Branch, where his stepmother then resided, and was induced to remain here, and entered at once upon the practice of his profession, building up a large and successful clientele. During the subsequent years Doctor Genung was numbered among the most prominent and successful doctors in this section of the state, having practiced over a wide radius of the country, and in many families he doctored successive generations. He was very successful and accumulated much material wealth, being owner of several splendid tracts of farm land at the time of his death. He long held distinctive prestige in a calling which requires much patience, sound mentality and intellectual discipline of a high order, supplemented by rigid professional training and thorough mastery of technical knowledge, with the skill to apply the same, without which one cannot hope to rise above mediocrity in his profession. In

addition to his long and creditable career in one of the most useful and exacting professions, the Doctor also proved an honorable member of the body politic, rising in the confidence and esteem of the public, and in every relation of life he never fell below the dignity of true manhood, nor in any way resorted to methods that invited criticism. In 1883 the Doctor was elected a member of the Indiana state Legislature, where he served with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of his constituents. Effectually a man among men, he ever moved as one who commanded respect by innate force, as well as by superior ability. As a citizen he easily ranked among the most influential of his compeers in affairs looking toward the betterment of his home city and county.

On June 17, 1866, Doctor Genung married Louisa Strain, daughter of Rev. T. M. and Mary (Lagrange) Strain, and to them were born the following children: Frances Lake, who completed her education at DePauw University, was married on October 25, 1886, to J. R. Hedden, representative of the Evansville & Terre Haute, now the Chicago & Eastern Illinois railroad, and whose death occurred in 1893. To Mr. and Mrs. Hedden were born the following children: Jessie May, the wife of Prof. Hailam Walker Davis, of Manhattan, Kansas; Edith Louise, assistant principal of the Fort Branch high school, was also a graduate of DePauw University; John Richard, a traveling salesman; Horace Genung is represented in a later paragraph of this sketch; Bertha, the wife of W. C. Polk, of Fort Branch; Mary Elizabeth, the wife of R. M. Stormont, of Oakland City, and Homer, who is also represented in a later paragraph.

Horace Genung was born at Fort Branch, Indiana, on February 7, 1870, and secured his elementary education in the Fort Branch public schools, and attended the high school. He then entered DePauw University, and after finishing the course there, he returned to Fort Branch, and entered upon the management of the home farm, to which he devoted his attention for eight years. In 1893, owing to his wife's ill health, he removed to California, where he remained three years, then returning to Fort Branch, he bought an interest in the Fort Branch Milling Company, of which he became superintendent. He continued purchasing stock in this enterprise, of which he eventually obtained the controlling interest, being now president and general manager. The original mill, which was built at King's Station about 1878, was later removed to Fort Branch, and many substantial and permanent improvements have been made, Mr. Genung having spent over ten thousand dollars in buildings and equipment. The mill, which is up-to-date in every respect, has a daily

capacity of one hundred barrels. They buy corn and wheat, shipping the former and grinding the latter. Their favorite brand of flour bears the trade names of Seven Stars and Wild Rose. The former has an immense sale in the South, where it is considered a leading brand of flour. Mr. Genung is also a stockholder in the Farmers and Merchants Bank, and owns a farm one mile east of Fort Branch, which he has found a profitable source of income.

In March, 1890, Horace Genung was married to Margaret Blessing, the daughter of John Blessing, a pioneer settler of Gibson county, and to this union has been born one child, John Roy, who is now a student in the medical department of Indiana University. Fraternally, Mr. Genung is an enthusiastic member of the Masonic order, belonging to the chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and the Scottish Rite, in which he has taken the thirty-second degree. Religiously, he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he is a trustee and he is also actively interested in the Sunday school, being the present superintendent.

Homer T. Genung was born at Fort Branch, Indiana, on February 12, 1882, being the youngest child born to his parents. His early education was received in the public schools of Fort Branch, and after his graduation from the high school, he took a course at Purdue University. Upon the completion of his technical training, he and his brother-in-law, W. C. Polk, purchased the drain tile plant which had been organized by Douglas & Polk some time during the sixties, and after being engaged in this enterprise for some time they installed an electric light plant on the same premises, having continued since to supply the city of Fort Branch with commercial and public light. In 1911 the tile plant was dismantled, because of the fact that a silo business had been started which demanded their full attention. The latter business consists of the manufacture of forms used in the making of concrete silos, and they also manufacture forms for making cement grain storage buildings. This business has steadily increased and has necessitated the erection of a fine new plant, now in the course of construction, which will be one hundred and ten by one hundred and fifty feet in size, the office being in the second story. The present officers of the Polk-Genung-Polk Company are as follows: President, W. C. Polk; vice-president, H. O. Cherry; secretary-treasurer, H. T. Genung; assistant treasurer, W. A. Polk. The new plant will employ about thirty men, and will, when completed, have cost about twenty-five thousand dollars. The output of this company has been distributed to many distant points of the country, including Brownsville, Texas, Montana, San Francisco and New York. The products of the company are covered by patents, and the outlook

for future business is very promising. The production of electrical power has also proven a profitable feature of the business, it being a twenty-four hour service, and Mr. Genung, as one of the leaders in the enterprise, has shown a public spirit in all his enterprises, seeking ever to advance the best interests of the community. A good business man in every respect, keen and sagacious in his judgment, he has so managed his affairs as to reap satisfactory pecuniary reward and also gain the esteem and confidence of the entire community.

Fraternally, Mr. Genung is a member of the Masonic order, being a member of Fort Branch Lodge, No. 696, and has taken the degrees of the Scottish Rite, up to and including the thirty-second, being also a Noble of the Mystic Shrine, Hadi Temple, Evansville.

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### ALEXANDER D. GREEN.

It was remarked by a celebrated moralist and biographer that "there has scarcely a life passed of which a judicious and faithful narrative would not have been useful." Believing in the truth of this opinion, expressed by one of the greatest and best of men, the writer of this review takes pleasure in presenting a few facts in the career of a gentleman who, by industry, perseverance, temperance and integrity, has worked himself from an humble station to a successful place in life and won an honorable position among the well-known and highly esteemed men of the locality in which he resides.

Alexander D. Green was born August 5, 1846, in Knox county, Indiana, the son of John D., of Knox county, he the son of John D., of Virginia. The grandfather, with a brother, Samuel, who had first settled in Henderson county, Kentucky, came to Indiana in pioneer times and settled in Knox county, where he married a Miss Dun (her mother a Bogardus), and lived the remainder of his life. To the subject's grandparents were born the following children: William, Robert, James, Samuel, Harriett, Eliza and the subject's father. John D. died in Vincennes and the rest of the children have all lived and died in Knox county.

The father of Alexander D. Green received an exceedingly limited education in the Knox county schools and resided in that county until 1864, when he removed to Evansville, Indiana. He was a bricklayer by trade and also engaged in agriculture. He was a very active man, a stanch Republican and a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. In 1868 he removed to

Princeton, Gibson county, and shortly afterward built the old school which stood on the site of the new high school. For a number of years he engaged in contracting and building and a number of the best structures of his day were monuments to his skill and industry. He lived to the ripe old age of seventy-four. Twice married, his first wife, who died in 1854, bore him the following children: Alexander D., the subject; Dora married Thomas Hart, of Denver, Colorado; Mollie died in Texas, and William M. died in Danville, Illinois. The second wife of the subject's father was Ann M. Draper, of Knox county, Indiana, and this union was blessed by the birth of eight children, namely: Fannie, the wife of William F. Westfall, of Knox county; Carrie married William Phillips, and lives in Evansville; Nellie, deceased, was the wife of George Brown, of Evansville; Charles, a bricklayer, resides in Memphis, Tennessee; Effie, deceased, was the wife of George Davis, of Gibson county; James lives in Vincennes; Frank is a bricklayer in Vincennes; Fred is a railroad man of Vincennes.

The subject of this review in early boyhood attended the county schools, being compelled to follow a blazed trail four or five miles through the dense forest to reach the little log school house. Until the outbreak of the Civil war Mr. Green remained at home working on his father's place and for neighboring farmers.

In August, 1863, Mr. Green enlisted in Company E, Fifty-first Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Denny, his maternal grandfather. After being sent to Indianapolis for outfitting and drill, the command to which the subject was attached was sent first to Louisville, Kentucky, and then to Nashville, Tennessee, where, after a few skirmishes, they proceeded to Chattanooga and took part in the fighting at Missionary Ridge and Rome, Georgia. Here the regiment was captured and incarcerated in the famous Libby prison for three weeks, after which they were paroled, and Mr. Green returned to his home. However, he again enlisted in the fall of 1864, this time as a substitute for his father, being assigned to Company K, Forty-fourth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and in this command he was a participant in the battles of Franklin, Nashville, Tunnel Hill and Ottawa and was also in a number of skirmishes. On the completion of his service at the end of the war, Mr. Green was mustered out in September, 1865, at Indianapolis.

July 22, 1870, Mr. Green was united in marriage to Sarah A. Pollard, daughter of A. C. and Lucinda (Thompson) Pollard, who came from their native state of Virginia in early days and settled in Hillsdale, Vermillion

county, where they engaged in agriculture and passed their lives. To the subject and wife have been born four children, namely: Harry E., a bricklayer, of St. Louis, Missouri, who married Jennie Birmingham and has two children, Muriel and Ruth; John, who married Artie Berlin and lives in Princeton; Austin C., a bricklayer, who married Maud Garrett, of Tennessee, and lives in St. Louis, Missouri; William W., a brick layer, who married Chloe A. Mills, of Bellmont, Illinois, and resides at home with his parents.

After the Civil war Mr. Green located in Evansville, Indiana, and worked at his trade, also doing a great deal of contracting. Subsequently he followed his trade of masonry in a great many of the Western states, returning to Indiana in 1871 and locating in Gibson county at Princeton. He lived there until 1884, when he bought his present home place, known as the "Green's Fruit Farm," one and one-half miles northeast of the town on the Wheeling and Princeton road, where he has developed a fine place. Since coming to this community Mr. Green has done a great deal of contracting, both in Princeton and throughout the county.

Mr. Green is a member of Archer Post No. 28, Grand Army of the Republic, in which he takes an active interest, having attended a great many reunions and encampments of that organization. He also belongs to the Bricklayers' Union at Princeton. In his political belief Mr. Green is a Democrat.

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### JOHN KELL MCGREGOR.

It is not an easy task to describe adequately a man who has led an eminently active and busy life and who has attained a position of relative distinction in the community with which his interests are allied. But biography finds its most perfect justification, nevertheless, in the tracing and recording of such a life history. It is, then, with a full appreciation of all that is demanded and of the painstaking scrutiny that must be accorded each statement, and yet with a feeling of satisfaction, that the writer essays the task of touching briefly upon the details of such a record as has been that of the honored subject whose life now comes under review.

John Kell McGregor, familiarly known as "Kell" McGregor, is a native of Gibson county, born in Barton township November 18, 1839, a son of John and Jane (Faris) McGregor, he a native of Ohio and she originally from eastern Missouri. John McGregor was a son of Andrew, born in county



Deery, Ireland, and who came to America when a young man and settled in Ohio. Later he came to Gibson county, Indiana, and located in Barton township, being among the first settlers in the county. He passed the remainder of his life in Barton township and died on his original home there at the advanced age of ninety-six years. He was twice married and to his first union were born four children, Robin, George, Eliza and John. By his second wife he also had four children, Andrew, Polly, Joseph and Nancy.

John McGregor, father of the immediate subject of this sketch, had but a limited education in his youth, opportunities for acquiring more than the rudiments of an education being so meager in this new country. He was but a small boy when his parents came to Gibson county, but he managed to acquire a limited education, and continued to pursue his studies alone, reading such works as came to his hand, until he came to be considered a well-informed man. When he grew to young manhood, he secured a tract of government land in Barton township, which he proceeded to clear and convert into a home. He put up a small cabin and here he and his wife set up their home and reared their family. He died at the age of seventy-six on this old homestead; his wife had preceded him several years. His mode of life was such as to win for him the highest regard and liking of all with whom he came in contact. There were thirteen children born to John McGregor and wife. Mary Ann, the oldest, became the wife of Joseph Gest, and both are dead. He was a member of Company F, Forty-second Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was killed during the battle of Chickamauga. Mrs. Gest died in January, 1912. F. Marion married Iva Martin, a farmer of Barton township, and both are dead, as are also Elizabeth and her husband, James Sovercool. He was a member of Company F, Forty-second Regiment Indiana Infantry, during the Civil War. George W. (deceased) married Anna Burns, and she is still living in Pike county. He was also a member of Company F, Forty-second Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry. Ellen died unmarried. James (deceased) was a member of the same company and regiment mentioned above, and at his death left a widow, who was Mary McCleary. The seventh child in the family was John Kell, the immediate subject of this sketch. Gilbert married Jane Kell and lived in Barton township; both deceased. Jane is the widow of George Johnson and resides in Barton township. Samuel is a farmer and gardener, in the same township. His wife was Lavina Currey. Eliza is the wife of John C. Martin, a farmer of Barton township. Josiah, who died in May, 1913, was a farmer. He married Tebitha Green. Hannah, the youngest, died when a small child.



John Kell McGregor received his education in the early subscription schools of the county. This he attended in a little old log school house and sat on benches made from split logs. He remained at home until the time of his marriage, March 28, 1861, to Isabelle Watt, of Xenia, Ohio, a daughter of Andrew and Elizabeth (Dodds) Watt. They were originally from Ohio and came to Gibson county in 1858, locating in Columbia township, where they lived the rest of their lives. He was a farmer and also followed the trade of a cooper.

After his marriage, John Kell McGregor took up farming on a part of the old McGregor homestead in Barton township and lived there until in 1901 when he moved to Oakland City, Indiana, where he has since resided, having retired from active work. In addition to his farm work, he also operated a country store at the farm and taught school for a number of years. He was a school director for eighteen years.

On October 7, 1861, Mr. McGregor enlisted in Company F, Forty-second Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, organized in Barton township, and was first sent to Evansville. From there he was sent to Henderson, Kentucky, and up the Green river to South Carrollton and while on guard duty at Calhoun he became ill from the exposure. He was guarding a boat at the time and his watch extended from eight in the evening until ten the next morning. He gave way under the strain and was sent to the hospital at Evansville, Indiana, and confined there from February, 1862, to September of the same year, when he was discharged on account of disability and sent home. He has never fully regained his health since then.

Mr. and Mrs. McGregor were the parents of several children, of whom Nettie Jane was the oldest. She was a teacher four years before her marriage to Samuel McElroy. They made their home in Greene county, Indiana, near Scotland, where she died in 1900. James R. is at present a city mail carrier in Princeton. He taught school for ten years. His wife was Sadie Rucker. Their daughter Elizabeth has always lived at home. Newman, deceased, was a farmer and met his death while cutting saw logs in 1894. His widow, Mary Watts, still lives in Barton township. Nora was a teacher before her marriage to S. Asdell, of Scotland, Greene county. He is a blacksmith. Henrietta is teaching near Greenville, Tennessee. She has been engaged in this labor for about fifteen years, having taught in Greene, Crawford and Gibson counties. She has also taught in an Indian school at Tama, Iowa, and is now an instructor in a missionary school among the mountaineers of Tennessee. Their daughter Nancy died unmarried at the age of twenty-seven. Mrs. John Kell McGregor died May 2, 1880.

In politics, Mr. McGregor has always been a stalwart Republican and has done all in his power to uphold the dignity of the party. He is also a consistent member of the United Presbyterian church and gives liberally of his substance to its maintenance. He is properly numbered among the substantial citizens of his locality, having contributed in many ways to the advancement of his fellow citizens. He has in the course of an honorable career been successful in his business affairs and at the same time has placed himself high in public estimation.

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### BENJAMIN O. WILDER.

Dependent very largely upon his own resources from his early youth, Benjamin O. Wilder, of near Oakland City, has attained no insignificant success, and though he may have, like most men of affairs, encountered obstacles and met with reverses, he has pressed steadily forward, ever willing to work for the end he had in view. His tenacity and fortitude are due, no doubt, in a large measure to the worthy traits inherited from sterling ancestors, whose high ideals and correct principles he has ever sought to perpetuate in all the relations of life.

Benjamin O. Wilder is a native of Franklin county, Tennessee, born at the foot of the Cumberland mountains, March 25, 1836, a son of Nathaniel and Mary (Taylor) Wilder. They were both natives of that county and he engaged in general farming as well as following his trade of a blacksmith. In 1847 they came with their family to Warrick county, Indiana, locating four miles west of Boonville on the old plank road. Here he erected a home and also a blacksmith shop, where he worked at his trade. Here they remained for seventeen years, when they disposed of that location and purchased eighty acres of land one mile west of Augusta, in Pike county, Indiana. On this place Nathaniel Wilder passed the remainder of his life and died at the age of seventy-five. Here his first wife died, at the age of fifty, having been a great sufferer from rheumatism and practically an invalid for many years. By his first wife, Nathaniel Wilder had fourteen sons, only five of whom grew to maturity, namely: Benjamin O., the immediate subject of this sketch; Henderson, a retired farmer living at Oakland City; John, deceased, a member of the Fifty-eighth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry; Council, deceased, also a member of the Fifty-eighth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and George, deceased, who was second lieutenant of the same com-

pany and regiment. Nathaniel Wilder took as his second wife Emeline Murphy, a native of the Hoosier state, and to them were born three children: James and Walker, deceased, and Charles, who is engaged in the insurance business at Oakland City. The family were closely identified with the affairs of the Methodist Episcopal church and did much to extend its connections in their home society. Originally, Mr. Wilder was a Whig in politics, but when the Republican party came into existence, he gave it the same staunch support he had accorded the older party in earlier years.

Benjamin O. Wilder received only a limited schooling in his youth, owing to the limited circumstances of his parents and the meagre opportunities afforded at best. He remained at his father's home until 1862, when he went to Mount Era, in Wayne county, Illinois, and there united in marriage with Susan Aiken, of that place. He had a grocery store in the town named and maintained his home there until about a year after the close of the Civil war, and during that stormy period he gave more than a year's service to his country. About 1866 Mr. Wilder disposed of his interests in Mount Era and returned to Boonville, near which place he engaged in farming. After remaining there for a short while, he engaged in farming in Pike county and later took up residence in Gibson county, near Oakland City, where he still resides.

To Benjamin O. Wilder, by his first marriage, were born three children, namely: Mary, wife of the Reverend Albert Keaggy, a minister of the United Brethren church, located in the state of Washington; William, a land agent at Perkins, Oklahoma, and Alice, deceased. After the loss of his first wife, Mr. Wilder united in marriage with Sarah A. Bailey, of Warrick county, Indiana, by whom he reared a family of several children. Ora is engaged in farming near Evansville, Indiana. His wife was Sarah Taylor. Olive resides in Evansville, the wife of William Bone. Lillie, who is Mrs. Luther Thompson, is also a resident of Evansville. Hattie lives in Indianapolis and is the wife of Ed. Walters. Grace is the wife of Clyde Schrodres, of Evansville. Albert, whose wife was Doria Elliott, resides at Oakland City; Daniel, who married Mary Cummings, has his home in Indianapolis, while Eva, who is a bookkeeper and stenographer for the gas company of Oakland City, is the only one of the family who remains at home. In addition to the above named, three children died in infancy.

In addition to his business activities above mentioned, Mr. Wilder operated a grocery store in Scalesville, Pike county, for seven years and also dealt in real estate. This business interest he traded for his eighty acres of

farm land, which he cultivated until 1903, when he retired from active duties on account of poor health resulting from exposure endured while in the army.

In November of 1863 Mr. Wilder enlisted as a private in Company K, Sixty-first Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was first ordered to Springfield to be fitted out. From there he was sent to Camp Butler, where he remained for some time and from there went to Cairo, Illinois, and Duval's Bluff, Arkansas, under General Steele. He did guard duty a great deal of the time. He received his honorable discharge on January 1, 1865. Mr. Wilder is a member of the honored Grand Army of the Republic at Oakland City and his religious affiliation is with the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he is a faithful and consistent member. Mr. Wilder has always been an ardent supporter of the principles of the Republican party and while never seeking office for himself, has been interested in seeing the right man go into the right place and used his influence accordingly. There is much that is commendable in his life's record, for he has been found true to every duty in every relation of life. He is well known for his uprightness and the honorable methods he has always followed. Because of his genial and unassuming disposition and genuine worth, he enjoys a well-deserved popularity throughout his part of the county.

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### LEANDER SMITH.

Practical industry, wisely and vigorously applied, never fails of success. It carries a man onward and upward and brings out his individual character and acts as a powerful stimulant to the interests of others. The greatest results in life are often obtained by simple means and the exercise of the ordinary qualities of common sense, perseverance and industry. There is no calling, however humble, in which enterprise and industry, coupled with well directed purpose, will not be productive of some measure of success, and in the pursuit of agriculture the qualities mentioned are quite essential. Among the well known and highly respected farmers of Gibson county, who have attained to a degree of success in their line, and who have at the same time benefited the community in which they have lived, is the gentleman to a review of whose career we now direct the reader's attention.

Leander Smith, the son of Joseph and Mary Caroline (Watkins) Smith, was born in 1853, at Princeton, Indiana. Joseph Smith was born in Smith county, Tennessee, in 1824, and came to Princeton, Indiana, with his parents,

Wylie Smith and wife, when he was four years of age. Joseph Smith's mother died when he was but five years of age, and he spent his boyhood days at Princeton, and for about twenty-five years drove teams there for Messrs. Dimmock and Maxam. He was a soldier in the Mexican War and also served in the Civil War. In the latter he enlisted first in the Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, with which he served a while, afterwards re-enlisting in the One Hundred Forty-third Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, serving his country well and faithfully. During his boyhood he had been bound out until his majority, thus learning the habits of thrift and industry, and developed into a reliable, upright citizen, who lived a life free from blame. His death occurred at the Soldiers' Home at Marion, Indiana, in the summer of 1905. Mary Caroline (Watkins) Smith, the mother of the subject, was also born at Carthage, in Smith county, Tennessee, and came to Gibson county with her parents, Jesse Watkins and wife, about the same time that the Wylie Smith family came to Indiana. She grew up at Princeton, and lived at that place all the rest of her life, her death occurring there in 1870.

Leander Smith grew up in the city of Princeton, and received his elementary education in the public schools of that place. At an early age he **started working** in Jessup's woolen factory, and continued working there until he was twenty-one years of age, by which time he had worked himself up to a prominent position in the mill, and handled one of the most important machines in the mill. Upon reaching his majority he left Princeton and went to Mississippi, where he worked for two years in a sawmill. He then came back to this county and worked for a short time in the stone quarry. Following this he worked out on a farm near New Harmony, in Posey county, for a short time. While working in Posey county, he was married in 1878 to Missouri Martin, the daughter of William and Susan Martin. Her parents were born and married in Tennessee, and came to Black township, Posey county, Indiana, shortly after their marriage. They moved from Black township to Point township, and finally located in Linn township, where they spent the remainder of their lives. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Smith moved to Linn township, Posey county, eight miles south of New Harmony, where they continued to reside until 1900, when they moved to Wabash township, Gibson county, and settled on a farm three miles south of Crowleyville. To Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been born eight children, five of whom are living. **These children are as follows:** Martha Jane died in 1904, at the age of twenty-six years; Joseph died in 1895, at the age of fifteen years; Purnell

died in 1894; Maude, the wife of William Hutchins, lives two miles southwest of her parents on a farm, and is the mother of five children. Hazel, Welborn, Manford, Melvin and Fred; Fred was a soldier in the United States army for three years, his term expiring in January, 1912. He was stationed at Fort Russell, in Wyoming, and is now at home in Wabash township; Frank is in the United States army, stationed at Pasadena, California; Lizzie, wife of A. A. Rutter, lives at Winslow, Indiana, and is the mother of two children, Raymond and Albert; Mackie is at home with his parents.

Mr. Smith has spent his whole life in agricultural pursuits, performing all those multitudinous details which fall to the lot of the American farmer. He is a quiet, unassuming man, who has won the esteem and confidence of his fellow citizens by his upright dealings with them and by his support in the advancement of any cause looking to the general welfare of the community. As a citizen he is public spirited and enterprising; as a friend and neighbor he combines the qualities of head and heart that have won confidence and commanded the respect of his neighborhood. In all his activities as a citizen, he has so ordered his life that he has earned the unqualified endorsement of his fellow citizens.

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### WILLIAM T. WATSON.

The men most influential in promoting the advancement of society and in giving character to the times in which they live are two classes, to-wit, the men of study and the men of action. Whether we are more indebted to the one class or the other is a question of common difference of opinion. Neither class can be spared and both should be encouraged to occupy their several spheres of labor and influence zealously and without mutual distrust. In the following paragraphs are briefly outlined the leading facts and characteristics of one of the most striking men of action who has ever lived in Gibson county. Although the subject of this sketch has lived in the county only about ten years, such has been his peculiar force and power that he has been a very material factor in advancing the interests of this county. His success as a business man is due to his keen perceptive faculties, unusual soundness of judgment and his uprightness in all his dealings with his fellow citizens, and his systematic and honorable methods have resulted in gaining for him the confidence of all those with whom he has come in contact.

William T. Watson, the largest land owner of Montgomery township,

Gibson county, was born June 24, 1855, near Wheeling, West Virginia, the son of Owen H. and Martha (Clark) Watson. When William T. was about four years of age the family left West Virginia and moved to Edgar county, Illinois, where he grew up and spent the most of his life. He took advantage of the best schooling which could be obtained from the district schools of his county. His father died when he was about twelve years of age, and as he was the eldest of a family of several children, he was by this misfortune made the head of the family. He lived at home until the death of his mother, which occurred soon after he reached his majority. During this time he managed his father's farm of two hundred and forty acres and made a comfortable living for the family. He was married in 1878 to Linnie Wynn, whose parents were Thomas and Lina Wynn, and residents also of Edgar county, Illinois. Having inherited thirty acres of land from his paternal estate, he sold it for one thousand dollars and with this sum he began his start in life. A man of more than ordinary business ability, he has been very successful in all of his financial operations. He bought more land in the same county and started to farm on an extensive scale, not only raising the ordinary products of the farm, but buying and selling all kinds of live stock. Branching out in the real estate business, he bought and sold farms and has built up his material fortune in this way. Although he considers Chrisman, Illinois, his home, he has been deeply interested in Montgomery township, Gibson county, Indiana, since February, 1905, when he made his first purchase of real estate in the county. He now owns sixteen hundred acres in Montgomery township in addition to three hundred and fifty acres in Illinois. He has spent most of his time since 1905 in Montgomery township, superintending the management of his extensive holdings here. In September, 1911, he laid out the town of Skelton in Montgomery township, and still owns the town site.

Mr. and Mrs. William Watson have reared six children: Minnie M., Lydia W., Mabel, Martha C., Newton Everett and John W. His wife died May 2, 1905.

Mr. Watson has always taken an active interest in public affairs and while living in Illinois was elected supervisor of his township. A supervisor in Illinois is an official corresponding in general nature to the township trustee of Indiana, one supervisor being elected for each township and the supervisors of the county constituting the county board. Mr. Watson is a member of the time-honored order of Free and Accepted Masons, a Knight Templar, Knights of Pythias and is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of Amer-



ica, in all of which fraternal organizations he takes an active interest. He also holds membership in the Tribe of Ben-Hur.

Mr. Watson is a quiet, plain, unassuming man, easily approached and a man who treats all of his employees well. His success has been attained because he has brought to bear all those qualities which win for him the confidence of his fellow men. He is industrious, temperate, economical and in every way exemplary in his daily life and conduct. As a factor of the body politic he has borne well his every duty and no one questions his standing in this favored locality of the state.

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### HUMPHREY C. HELDT.

Among those persons who have by virtue of their strong individual qualities earned their way to a high standing in the estimation of their fellow citizens, having by sheer force of character and persistency won their way from an humble beginning to a place of influence and prominence in the community where they live, the subject of this sketch is entitled to special mention in a volume of this character.

Humphrey C. Heldt, member of the well-known firm of Creek & Heldt Hardware Company, at Oakland City, Indiana, was born in Vanderburg county, this state, on November 17, 1866. His parents were C. D. and Caroline (Fickas) Heldt, the father a native of Germany and the mother of Vanderburg county. C. D. Heldt came to America in the spring of 1854, locating in Vanderburg county, Indiana, where he took up the vocation of farming, in which he met with splendid success. He was a soldier of the Civil war, having enlisted in Company F, Twenty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, with which he served throughout that struggle. He was one of a family of thirteen, nine of whom came to America. After the war he returned to Vanderburg county and bought a farm, the purchase of which he had started during the war while home on a furlough. After completing the payment on this land, he added to it as he prospered and eventually acquired the ownership of two hundred and twenty acres. To him and his wife were born eight children, of whom six are living, namely: Mary J., the wife of Joseph Haag, of Knight township, Vanderburg county, Indiana; Elizabeth, the wife of Julius Wigger, also of Knight township; Martha, the wife of Elmer Hodson, of Evansville, Indiana; Bismark L., of Evansville; Frederick,





HUMPHREY C. HELDT.



of Knight township, Vanderburg county, and the subject of this sketch, who was the first born. The mother of these children died on December 25, 1910.

Humphrey C. Heldt was reared on the home farm until twenty-six years of age, receiving his education in the public schools of Vanderburg county. He began teaching school upon the completion of his own studies, teaching during the winter months, and attending college in the summer. He was a student in the Southwestern Normal University at Princeton, and from there he was graduated in 1892. Altogether he taught seven years in Vanderburg county, gaining a splendid reputation as an enthusiastic and successful educator. In 1893 Mr. Heldt came to Gibson county, locating on a farm in Columbia township, which he operated and at the same time engaged in teaching in the township high schools for four years. During the following two years he taught in the Francisco high school, and then, on April 2, 1900, he bought a half interest in the hardware business with W. T. Creek, of Oakland City, which has commanded his attention continuously since. The business was conducted as a private firm until 1903, when the company was incorporated, and Mr. Heldt has been manager of the business. The splendid success which has attended the Creek & Heldt Hardware Company is due largely to the persevering efforts and industry of the subject, who has been untiring along the line of building up the business in this community. He is also the owner of a splendid farm of one hundred and twenty-two acres in Columbia township, in the cultivation of which he maintains a deep interest, and which he has found a profitable source of income.

On August 3, 1892, Mr. Heldt married Eunice Coleman, the eldest daughter of W. H. Coleman, of Oakland City, and they have had three children, two of whom are living, Charles H., who is in school, and Robert C., also in school. Fraternally, Mr. Heldt is a member of the Masonic lodge, belonging to blue lodge, council and chapter, and also to the Tribe of Ben-Hur and the Modern Woodmen of America. Religiously, he is a member of the Presbyterian church, of which he has been an elder for twenty years. Politically, he is a Progressive and is enthusiastic in the political cause which he has espoused. Mr. Heldt has by his indomitable enterprise and conservative methods contributed in a material way to the advancement of his locality, and in the course of his honorable career has been very successful in all of his enterprises. Having been a man of energy, sound judgment and honesty of purpose, he is well deserving of mention in this volume. He is unselfish in his outlook upon life and, aside from his own affairs, he takes an intelligent interest in everything

pertaining to the community in which he lives, giving his earnest support to all measures having for their object the advancement of the public welfare, morally, educationally, socially and materially. Genial and unassuming, he has deservedly won a high place in the hearts of his acquaintances and friends.

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### HISTORY OF THE STORMONT FAMILY.

The Stormont family is of Scotch-Irish origin. This much is certain, but there is a good deal lacking in the way of data to enable one to give a connected and reliable ancestral history of the family in that country. It is pretty well authenticated that the early ancestors came from Scotland and settled in the north of Ireland, probably in the latter part of the sixteenth century. It is certain that Samuel Stormont, the father of the branch that came to America, came from county Antrim, Ireland. But how long he had lived there before emigrating is not known. There is a pretty well founded tradition that some of the family of that name in that country held titled honors, with inherited estates, and were identified with government affairs. The Lord Stormont, who figured in history of the Revolution as a representative of Great Britain, belonged to one of the family branches. It is related that this title came to him by inheritance from an uncle, as did also a landed estate, on which was a castle near Belfast, known as "Stormont Castle." This castle still stands and is known by that name, but the Stormonts do not occupy nor own it now.

There is a story, which may be related in this connection, that this Lord Stormont had inherited a legacy from his uncle, Admiral Stormont, of the British navy, and that this legacy was passed to his nephew, David Stormont, son of Samuel, mentioned above; that this David Stormont refused to accept this legacy, or to have anything to do with it, because he regarded it as ill-gotten gains, the legacy being obtained as prize money from captured vessels. And the conscientious scruples of this David Stormont, who came with his father to this country, were maintained by some of his children, who lived and died in Princeton. So this legacy, whatever it amounted to, was never claimed.

As has been stated, the father of the branch that came to this country, and with whom this sketch has to do, was Samuel Stormont. At the time of his family leaving Ireland they were given a certificate from the church to which they belonged, of which the following is a copy:

"That Samuel Stormont, his wife, Martha, and son David, who is a single person, who is about to go to South Carolina, with his daughter, Esther, who is also a single person, soberly and honestly, and may be received into any Christian society where God, in His providence hath ordered his lot."

This certificate is not dated, and there is no date obtainable as to the time of their arrival in America. It appears from this, and other instances along the line, that the Stormonts of early times were so much occupied in raising large families that they were very negligent about dates and details of their movements. But, from the fact that there were five children in the family, and only the two oldest are mentioned in the church certificate, it is probable that the others were born after the family came to this country. And, from other evidence, it is likely that Samuel Stormont came to America in the first half of the seventeenth century. The children were: David, who married Nancy Boyd; Esther, who married James Chestnut; Martha, who married Samuel Ferris; Mollie, who married Samuel McClure; John, who married (1) Nancy Wilson (2) Bettie Maybin; William, who married Anna McClure.

It is not the purpose of this sketch to follow the line of family history of the Stormonts, from the time of the settlement of this first family in South Carolina, down to the present time. This would be impracticable, if not impossible, because of the lack of data upon which a reliable record could be made. Even if this were obtainable, a complete genealogical record of the several branches of this family down to the present time would interest but few of the readers of this volume. It is the purpose to deal only with the history of the branch of the original family that came to Gibson county, and were among the early settlers. These were well-known by many of the older citizens now living, and their family history may find appropriate place in a Gibson county history. This sketch will bring the genealogical line down within the memory of the present generations, and those who care to do so may take up this line and follow the several family branches, ad infinitum.

So far as known, Samuel Stormont and all his sons and daughters found homes in South Carolina, probably all in Chester district, and there they spent their life time. From the best information obtainable, David, the oldest son, married Nancy Boyd in 1788, and the history of this family comes within the purpose of this sketch.

*Family of David Stormont, son of Samuel.*

Martha, born July 7, 1789, never married, and died in Princeton.

Robert, born April 30, 1791, the father of Dr. Wasson Stormont, a former

teacher in the old Seminary in Princeton, who moved to Topeka, Kansas, in the early days of that territory, and was a well-known and prominent physician and citizen of that city and state. Crawford, another son, was well-known in Princeton, where he lived in his early years. He died at his home in Sparta, Illinois, a few years ago. Neither of the sons of Robert Stormont had any children.

Amanda, married Dr. George B. Graff, who was a prominent physician in Princeton, in the later forties and early fifties. He removed to Omaha, Nebraska, about 1859, where he died several years ago. His wife died some years later. The only one of the family now living is a son, John, who is located some place in Wyoming.

Louisa, married Moses Biddle. One son, Crawford Biddle, is now living in Chicago. Another son, Dr. Edgar Biddle, lived in Patoka, and died there a few years ago.

Mary, born April 8, 1793, was never married. She lived and died in Princeton.

Esther, born June 3, 1795, married Clem Allen. She had two daughters and one son; one of the daughters married John Garrett. Mrs. Garrett was the mother of the late Mrs. William Anderson, and the grandmother of Dr. Robert Stormont Anderson, Mrs. J. A. Pfohl and Mrs. David Burchfield, of Princeton, and Mrs. John Hamilton, of Manhattan, Kansas.

Nancy Agnes, born October 23, 1799, married Joseph Hartin. The children were Margaret, the first wife of Andrew J. Wright; David; Mary, Catherine, Sarah and Joseph C. Hartin.

David, born August 7, 1802, married Mary Hartin 1825 and removed from South Carolina to Gibson county in 1812, and resided in this county from that time until his death in 1886. His children were Nancy J., who married John Hull; Amanda married John Adams; Martha married Alex. McConahey; Joseph enlisted in the Forty-second Indiana Regiment Volunteer Infantry and died in the service; Robert, deceased; and Riley, the only son living, who married Mary Lytle.

*Family of John Stormont, second son of Samuel.*

John Stormont was twice married: First to Nancy Wilson; second to Elizabeth Maybin. James and Samuel were sons by the first wife. The children by the second wife were Mary, Thomas and Sarah. Mary married Samuel McClure; Sarah married William Stormont, a cousin; Thomas was killed in an accident in South Carolina; Samuel removed to southern Illinois where he died. Some of the members of this family

remained in the south, locating in northern Mississippi, and their descendants were loyal to the Confederate cause during the Civil War. A Colonel Stormont commanded a Mississippi regiment and another by that name in the Confederate army was killed in the battle of Stone's River; another, a Confederate prisoner, died at Alton, Illinois.

James, the oldest son of John Stormont, removed with his entire family except the oldest son, John, to Gibson county in 1832, and settled on the Indian creek hills, about three miles east of Princeton. John, who was married before leaving South Carolina, removed to Greene county, Ohio. The family of James Stormont has been identified with the history of Gibson county from early times and their history is given more in detail.

*Family History of James Stormont, Grandson of Samuel.*

James Stormont, born July 16, 1773, died in Gibson county, 1862. Married Jane Sprowl (1781) October 1, 1799. Removed to Gibson county 1832. Their children were:

Nancy, born July 16, 1801, who married (1) James Vance, (2) William Lawrence.

Jennette, born April 6, 1804, who married John McWilliams. A daughter, Mrs. Martha Spence, widow of Gabriel Spence, is the only one of this family now living.

John, born January 5, 1806, married (1) Esther McMillan, (2) Nancy Cooper. Removed from South Carolina to Greene county, Ohio. Two of his sons, Rev. Samuel R. Stormont and Wm Henry Stormont, were residents of Gibson county for several years before their death. The widow and a son of Rev. Samuel are residents of Princeton.

William, born December 7, 1807, married (1) Sarah Wallace, (2) Elvira Louisa Carithers, (3) Mary Lizada Carithers. (A more detailed history of this family is given under a subhead to follow.)

Martha, born December 12, 1809, married Robert Ervin. John Riley, who married Sarah Finney, and Nancy E., who married George W. Shopbell, reside in Princeton and are the only children of this family now living.

Mary, born April 1, 1812, married David Stormont (a cousin), and lived and died in southern Illinois. Robert P. Stormont, who died at his home in Princeton a few years ago, was a son. His widow is still living here.

Rosanna, born April 20, 1814, married Joseph Woods Hogue in Gibson county and removed to Warren county, Illinois.

Sarah A., born February 16, 1816, married William Hogue and removed to Warren county, Illinois.

James, born December 30, 1817, married Amanda Melvina Carithers. (A more detailed history of this family is given under a sub-head to follow.)

Jane, born November 30, 1819, married (1) John Paul, (2) John McNeece, Samuel Riley, born March 6, 1823, married Mary Cooper and removed to Greene county, Ohio, where he died a few years ago, the last of the family.

David, born July 14, 1825, married Mary Ann Clark, both deceased. (A more detailed history of this family is given in a sub-head to follow.)

*Family of William Stormont, son of James.*

James Renwick, married Rebecca M. Clark, both deceased. The children living are, Sarah Elizabeth, who married Erastus L. Townsend; Marietta, who married Hugh Morrow, and Miss Jane Amanda, living, Princeton.

Jane Amanda, married Charles B. Ford, both deceased. The children living are, William M., who married Eleanor Ames, Indianapolis; Rose, who married E. T. Hoar, Indianapolis; J. Crawford, who married Emma Sulmer, Marion, Indiana.

Gavin McMillan, married Elizabeth Watt (deceased), Pomona, California.

Sarah Diantha, married William C. Lawrence. The children are, John C., who married Clyde Stormont, Canon City, Colorado; Clarence E., who married Anna Massey, Princeton; Elmer, who married Carrie Fischer, Danville, Illinois; and Emner, Cairo, Illinois.

Gilbert Reiley, married Kate Keys. The children living are, Harry K., who married Eunice Heston, Indianapolis; Donald M., who married Pearl Murphy, Princeton; Ralph M., who married Mary Genung, Oakland City.

Mary Rose Ann, born April 16, 1845, died February 25, 1847.

Andrew Harvey, married Jennette Paul, Sterling, Kansas.

Nancy Theresa, born March 3, 1850, died August 19, 1859.

William John, born September 2, 1852, died August 1, 1859.

Elizabeth Elvira, born February 17, 1856, died November 25, 1888.

Josiah Crawford, born October 11, 1857, died September 7, 1877.

Miss Mary Louisa, living in Princeton.

*Family of James Stormont, son of James, Sr.*

John McLeod, married Nancy E. Watt. The children are Clyde, who married John C. Lawrence, Canon City, Colorado; Frank Newton, who married Grace Gilmore, Jacksonville, Florida; Miss Lillian, living at home.



Andrew Riley, married Sarah E. Lawrence and moved to Nebraska; both deceased.

Mary Jane, married Thomas McLaughlin and moved to Marion county, Illinois. The wife died May 12, 1913, the husband died several years previous. The only daughter, Florence, is living in Canon City, Colorado.

Martha Araminta, died at her home in Princeton in 1893.

James Calvin, living in California.

Gilbert McMaster, married Lyda Cunningham. The husband died at his home in Gibson county in 1897. The widow removed to Long Beach, California, where she is now living.

Samuel Josiah, married Anna Sturges and removed to St. Louis, Missouri, where they are now living.

*Family of David Stormont, Son of James, Sr.*

Elizabeth Louisa, married Milton Kell (deceased), Princeton. The children are Miss Ella, and Lilly, who married William Lockwood, Evansville.

John Crawford married (1) Jane McLaughlin, (2) Margaret Baldridge. The children are Arthur, who married Oma Boswell; Ernest, Laura, David and Bertha.

James Theophilus, living in Gibson county.

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## EDWARD WEISGERBER.

The following is a brief sketch of the life of one who, by close attention to business, has achieved marked success in the world's affairs and risen to an honorable position among the enterprising men of the county with which his interests are identified. It is a plain record, rendered remarkable by no strange or mysterious adventure, no wonderful and lucky accident and no tragic situation. Mr. Weisgerber is one of those estimable characters whose integrity and strong personality must force them into an admirable notoriety, which their modesty never seeks, who command the respect of their contemporaries and their posterity and leave the impress of their individuality upon the age in which they live.

Ed Weisgerber was born on December 11, 1874, in Patoka township, Gibson county, Indiana, and is the son of Emil and Gertrude Weisgerber. These parents, who were both born and reared in Germany, came to America

at different times, locating at Princeton, Indiana, where their marriage occurred. The father was a brick layer by trade, and also owned a good farm in Patoka township where his son Henry and daughter Sophia now live. Sometime after the death of his first wife he married Nellie Hale, of Pike county, Indiana, who is still living in the latter county. In his later life Emil Weisgerber lived in Pike county. In 1861, in response to the call of his adopted country for defenders of the national integrity, he enlisted as a private in Company F, Thirty-third Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, with which he served during the remainder of the war. He went through many hardships and privations, and as a result of his exposures he contracted a bad throat. He also became a member of Archer Post, Grand Army of the Republic, at Princeton. He was a member of the United Presbyterian church, and a man of excellent qualities of character, being widely known and highly esteemed by all. To him and his wife were born the following children: Emma, who now lives in Princeton, is the widow of L. Hill; Anna, who is unmarried, lives in Illinois; Sophia, with her brother Henry, lives on the home farm in Patoka township; Henry, just referred to, is a successful farmer; Gertrude, deceased; Edward, the subject of this sketch; Clara, the wife of John H. Burns of Patoka township in this county.

Edward Weisgerber attended the schools of his home neighborhood, remaining with his parents until 1894, when he took up the vocation of farming for himself at Tafttown, Patoka township. There he continued to be engaged in this line with splendid success until March 13, 1913, when he took charge of the Lotus celery farm in Patoka township for William J. Ritterskamp, proprietor of the Princeton gardens. He had started to work for Mr. Ritterskamp in 1899 and was with him for four years, when he took up gardening on his own account until again joining Mr. Ritterskamp. The Lotus celery farm, which is located five miles southwest of Princeton, is one of the noted celery farms of this section of the state, and a large portion of its success is due to the personal efforts of Mr. Weisgerber.

Edward Weisgerber was married on May 15, 1894, to Gertrude L. Malone, of Patoka township, Gibson county, Indiana, the daughter of Hugh Malone, and to this union have been born six children: Gladys C., George Herbert, Ruby Catherine, Isabelle, Rudolph and Delbert. Politically, Mr. Weisgerber is an earnest advocate of the Republican doctrine, and has been active in the support of this organization for many years. Fraternally, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having his membership in the subordinate lodge at Princeton for the past seven years. He is also a

member of the encampment of this order. The success which attended Mr. Weisgerber and his affairs has been due to his persistence, integrity and splendid judgment, qualities which have won for him the confidence and esteem of the public to a marked degree.

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### FRANK REAVIS.

It is always pleasant and profitable to review the career of a man who has won a definite goal in life, whose career has been such as to command the honor and respect of his fellow citizens. In these days a man cannot live a secluded life, but if he is to be a part of the community in which he lives he must subserve his interests to those of the community at large. The most valuable citizens to any community are the men who not only are able to manage their own affairs successfully, but also to take an intelligent part in the affairs of the community. No man lives entirely to himself and a man's value to the public is measured by the service to his fellow men. The subject of this sketch has been one of those men who have not only been successful in their own private business, but he has, when called upon by his fellow citizens, been a prominent factor in contributing to the welfare of the district in which he lives.

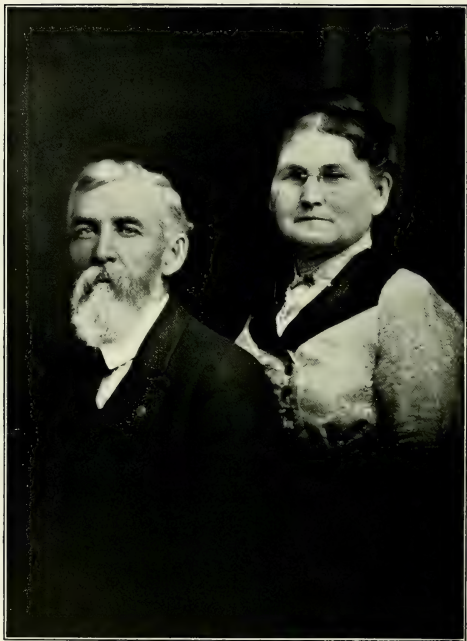
Frank Reavis, the only child of Alexander and Louisa (Palmer) Reavis, was born January 13, 1861, in Center township, this county. His parents also were both natives of Gibson county, and were among the pioneer settlers of the county. Frank Reavis received his education in the district schools of his neighborhood, and his early life was divided between his school duties and the various chores on the farm which fall to the lot of the average country lad. On the farm he learned all those details which must be mastered by the farmer before he can be able to command any degree of success in agricultural lines. Some one has said that the information which a farmer must have would fill a volume of several hundred pages and he who has tried to operate a farm without previous experience will readily acknowledge the fact. Our schools today are giving courses in agriculture and trying to teach it from a scientific standpoint. However, it is undoubtedly true that many a college graduate with a degree in agriculture can go home to his father, who was reared on the farm and get information which he never received from books.

Mr. Reavis was united in marriage on October 18, 1881, to Sarah L. Wood, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Wood, and to this union there have been born two children, Durbin C., who has had a very successful career as an educator. After finishing his elementary education in the township schools of his county, he graduated from the Francisco high school, and then took the three-year course in the Oakland City College. He followed this by taking the course of study provided for in the University of Chicago. His teaching experience has been very extensive, starting from the bottom and continuing on up through the various grades of teaching experience until he is now the superintendent of the St. Louis, Missouri, schools. He has been the superintendent of the high schools at Hazleton, Indiana, and Francisco, Indiana; later of the Oakland City College and now, as before stated, has charge of the schools at St. Louis. Such a career is certainly worthy of emulation and should be a source of great gratification to his parents and friends. The second child of Mr. and Mrs. Reavis is Mrs. Nellie D. Shanor, who now lives at Oakland City, this county, her husband being superintendent of the Oak-town schools. Mr. and Mrs. Shanor are the parents of one child, Charles Reavis.

Mr. Reavis is the owner of one hundred and seventy acres of fine farming land in Center township, though he is living in Francisco. He has brought his farm to a high state of cultivation and has equipped it with all the modern appliances necessary for the successful farmer. He has always taken a very prominent part in the material advancement of his county and his ability was recognized several years ago by the county commissioners when they appointed him as superintendent of the rock roads of Center township. It costs about three thousand dollars a mile to build a rock road and there are now about twelve miles of this splendid road in Center township. As superintendent of the roads he has given universal satisfaction to the citizens of the township, and the roads which he has constructed are a credit to the community.

Mr. Reavis has been an active member of the Democratic party, but has held no other office than that of superintendent of the rock roads of his township. He feels that in this office he can perform a very useful service for his community, and is content to exercise all his talents along this particular line. He has made a study of road building and is recognized as one of the county's best qualified men in roadbuilding. He and his family are members of the General Baptist church of Francisco, and take a prominent part in all the activities of that denomination. He is a member of the Tribe of Ben-Hur at Francisco. He is a man of high moral character and strictest





MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM P. WITHERSPOON.

integrity, persistent industry and excellent judgment, and as such he has won the esteem of all with whom he has come in contact. While he has been advancing his individual interests, he has never lost sight of his obligation to the community in general, where for many years he has held a high place in the popular confidence and esteem.

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### WILLIAM P. WITHERSPOON.

The great English poet, Pope, has said that "the proper study of mankind is man," and no truer statement was ever made. To be able to trace one's ancestry back through the past generations and find that they have occupied high and honorable positions in the history of their country, is a source of genuine satisfaction and deep gratification. There is no one who would not like to have it said that his ancestors fought in the Revolutionary war, the Mexican or the Civil wars; and to be a descendant of a signer of the Declaration of Independence or a president of Princeton University is an honor which falls to very few people. There is, however, one family in Gibson county which can claim as distinguished ancestry as any in the state of Indiana, an ancestry which includes some of the most honored names of Revolutionary fame and which has continued down through the years of our country's history as a family of high ideals and patriotic devotion to their land. The Witherspoon family has seen one of its distinguished ancestors as the friend of Washington and Madison and Franklin and a signer of the Declaration of Independence, others as valiant soldiers in the Revolution, others as heads of great educational institutions, others as leaders in the Civil war, and all members of the family as high-minded citizens and patriots who loved their God, their country and their homes.

William P. Witherspoon was born near Patoka, Gibson county, Indiana, at the Witherspoon homestead on February 11, 1828, being the sixth child of William P. and Parmelia (Berlin) Witherspoon. This family of Witherspoons is a branch of the Witherspoons of New Jersey, who were prominent patriots at the time of the War of the Revolution. John Witherspoon, father of William P. Witherspoon, Sr., was born in 1756, and was a surgeon in the Continental army, serving three years, and also attained to the degree of Doctor of Medicine. His uncle, John Witherspoon, was a signer of the Declaration of Independence, a member of the Continental Congress, and

afterwards president of Princeton College, New Jersey. After the close of the Revolutionary war, one branch of this family moved southward and William P. Witherspoon, Sr., the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Alabama in 1808, and, leaving his native state twenty years later, went north to southern Indiana. In 1833 he married Permelia Berlin, and two years later purchased the farm where he resided until the time of his death, which occurred in 1892. His daughter, Zella, cared for him the last eleven years of his life. The wife and mother died in 1878. Their family consisted of nine children, seven boys and two girls, five of whom are now living. Mr. Witherspoon pursued his first lessons in the Patoka schools and later attended school on the old Tippecanoe battle field, north of Lafayette, Indiana. He was but a lad when the Civil war broke out, and three years later, at the age of sixteen, he entered the ranks of the Union army, enlisting in Company G, One Hundred Forty-third Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, in which he was first color guard, which place he occupied until the close of the war. He was mustered out at Nashville on October 17, 1865. Three of his brothers also served in the Union army: John was a member of Company H, Seventeenth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and re-enlisted after the expiration of his first term of enlistment; Moses and James were in Company A, Eightieth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry. After the war Mr. Witherspoon lived with his father on the home farm until October, 1868, when he went to Vermillion county, Illinois, and took employment in the store of his cousin, J. R. Witherspoon, of Fairmount, where he remained for eighteen months. He then returned to Patoka for one year, and in 1870, in company with his brother, Moses, opened a store of general merchandise at Patoka, which they conducted until the spring of 1872.

On the 12th day of March, 1872, Mr. Witherspoon was married to Esther, daughter of Major and Martha (Thompson) Burroughs. Major Burroughs' father was born in Kentucky, and his mother in Pennsylvania. Mrs. Burroughs' father's parents came to this country from the northern part of Ireland and settled in Erie county, Pennsylvania, where Mr. Thompson was born, grew to manhood and taught school for several years, later coming to Indiana, where he followed the same profession. He was married to Esther Payne, of Orange county, New York. From there they moved to Danville, Illinois, where he again took up the profession of teaching and continued in this line until five of his own children had attended school under his teaching. After he gave up this profession he was appointed register of



the land office by the President of the United States, selling all the government land in Champaign and Vermillion counties, Illinois, during those years. He died in 1863, his widow surviving him thirty-nine years, her death occurring in 1902, at the advanced age of ninety-two years.

Major Burroughs, Mrs. Witherspoon's father, enlisted as a private in August, 1862, in Company E, Seventy-third Regiment Illinois Infantry, which was organized at Fairmount, that state, and was called the "Preacher Regiment" on account of every regimental officer being a Methodist minister. At the time of the organization of this company Mr. Burroughs was elected captain and one year later the major of the regiment died and Captain Burroughs was promoted to the rank of major. However, Captain Burroughs commanded the regiment until the close of the war, as Colonel Jacques was absent most of the time, acting as spy for President Lincoln. Major Burroughs was with his regiment in every battle except one, he being sick in the hospital at that time. He received a personal letter from General Thomas commending him upon his bravery in time of action. Major Burroughs and wife were Cumberland Presbyterians, he being superintendent of the Sabbath school for fourteen years and elder in the church from the time of its organization until it merged into the Presbyterian church in 1911, a period of forty years. Six children were born to Major and Mrs. Burroughs, two of whom survive, N. W. Burroughs, of Fairmount, Illinois, and Mrs. William P. Witherspoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Witherspoon purchased a farm in Vermillion county, Illinois, and remained in that state for thirty-three years, the last ten years of which period they resided in Homer, Champaign county, Illinois. During that time Mr. Witherspoon served on the board of education at Homer for ten years, was one of the first incorporators of the Homer Fair Association and was a member of the Vermillion County Fair Association for sixteen years. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, Archer Post of Princeton, and also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, with which order he has been prominently identified for the last twenty-one years. In 1905, although still having interests in Illinois land, they came to Gibson county, Indiana, and purchased the home where they now reside, the Hudleson homestead, and also invested in land in the White River bottoms. Mr. and Mrs. Witherspoon have three children: Stella, who married Charles M. Cessna, a farmer and stock raiser and dealer of South Charleston, Ohio, and who has four children, C. Russell, Esther Lou, Florence and William Harold; Wilson W., who resides at Patoka, Indiana, married Cornelia French,

and they are the parents of two children, Wilson French and Esther Margaretta. Wilson Witherspoon is interested in farming and stock raising in connection with his father; Myrtle M., who became the wife of James E. Hall, a mail clerk between Evansville and Chicago; they have one son, Edward Gerald, and reside in Princeton, Indiana. Mr. Witherspoon has one hundred and seventy-two acres in the home farm, two hundred and eighty acres of bottom land in this county and eighty-five acres in Vermillion county, Illinois.

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### EDWARD RICKARD.

The life of the farmer of today is the most independent existence which can be enjoyed, and with all the modern inventions to facilitate farming, it is rapidly losing those objections which have always appeared so ominous to the average farmer lad. Then, again, the public school has taken cognizance of the subject of farming and today in the schools of Indiana farming is being taught and given as much attention as arithmetic. Our colleges are granting degrees in agriculture and farmers' short courses are being given everywhere throughout the state. The last Legislature of Indiana created a new county official for the sole benefit of the farmers of the state and the county agent promises to be a wonderful help to the farmers. No better farming land can be found in the state than in Gibson county and among the many good farmers of the county there is none who has made more of a success of this time-honored occupation than Edward Rickard.

Edward Rickard, the son of Henry and Mary (Hill) Rickard, was born December 25, 1854, in Columbia township, Gibson county, Indiana, on the farm where he has lived all of his life. His father was a native of North Carolina and came to Gibson county with his parents when he was a boy of seven years of age. Henry Rickard grew to manhood in this county and became one of the most substantial farmers of the township in which he lived. He was twice married, his first wife being Mary Hill. To the first marriage were born two children, Edward and Mrs. Amanda Jenkins, deceased. The second marriage of Henry Rickard was to Mrs. Elizabeth Wigs, and to this union were born two children, Mrs. Minnie Robb, of Gibson county, and Mrs. Amelia Beoshears.

Edward Rickard received the practical education which was furnished by the district schools of his township and has supplemented it by a wide range of reading and close observation of men and events. He has lived a

plain, unostentatious life, free from all the worries of the business man, and reared his children to spheres of usefulness. He inherited two hundred acres of land from his father and has added forty acres, making him a total of two hundred and forty acres.

Mr. Rickard was married November 12, 1878, to America J. Ashby, the daughter of James and Cynthia A. (Atkins) Ashby, of Pike county, and to this union there have been born five children: Lloyd, deceased; Clyde, deceased; Beryl, deceased; Effie, who is a graduate of the Oakland City high school, and still at home; Garrett E., the youngest child, who is also now staying at home. Garrett is making an enviable record in the teaching profession, having been principal of the Oakland City high school for the past four years. After graduating from the Oakland City high school he entered the State University at Bloomington where he graduated in June, 1913, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. He has also taken work in the University of Chicago and expects to complete the work in that institution leading to the degree of Master of Arts. He is meeting with pronounced success in his chosen field of history teaching and, judging from the past, the future holds additional honors for him.

The first wife of Edward Rickard died January 22, 1900, and on December 3, 1902, he was married to Bertha A. Williams, the daughter of Edward and Bertha (Gorlets) Williams. Both of her parents were natives of Germany and reared a family of five children: Mrs. Cora Klenck, Lucy Kelle, deceased, H. Edward, Mrs. Edward Rickard and Mrs. Anna Baker.

Mr. Rickard has carried on a system of diversified farming and by a skilful rotation of his crops has been able to keep his land in a high state of productivity. He has all the latest implements and tools necessary to the up-to-date farmer and is classed as one of the most scientific farmers of the county.

Mr. Rickard has been a Democrat, although not a partisan in the strict sense of the word. In local elections he prefers to vote for the best man, irrespective of his party affiliations. Mr. Rickard was elected to the office of township trustee in his home township in 1905 and filled that important office to the entire satisfaction of the citizens of the township. In his church relations he has long been a member of the General Baptist church, while his wife maintains her membership in the Presbyterian church. Mrs. Rickard is a woman of intelligence and culture and is affable and pleasant in all of her social relations. Mr. Rickard is the kind of a man who wins the respect and esteem of all of those with whom he is associated.

## J. W. McGOWAN, M. D.

It is not always easy to discover and define the hidden forces that move a life of ceaseless activity and large professional success; little more can be done than to note their manifestation in the career of the individual under consideration. In view of this fact the life of the successful physician and public-spirited man of affairs whose name appears above affords a striking example of well-defined purpose, with the ability to make that purpose subserve not only his own ends but the good of his fellow men as well. Doctor McGowan holds distinctive prestige in a calling which requires for its basis sound mentality and intellectual discipline of a high order, supplemented by the rigid professional training and thorough mastery of technical knowledge, with the skill to apply the same, without which one cannot hope to rise above mediocrity in ministering to human ills. In his chosen field of endeavor Doctor McGowan has achieved a notable success and an eminent standing among the medical men of his county. In addition to his creditable career in one of the most useful and exacting of professions, he has also proved an honorable member of the body politic, rising in the confidence and esteem of the public, and in every relation of life he has never fallen below the dignity of true manhood nor in any way resorted to methods that have invited criticism or censure.

J. W. McGowan is a native of the old Blue Grass state, having been born at Monticello, Wayne county, Kentucky, on January 22, 1855. His parents, Dr. W. J. and Delila J. (Ramsey) McGowan, were also natives of Wayne county, but they moved to Gibson county, Indiana, in 1862, locating at Princeton. During the Civil war Dr. W. J. McGowan was a hospital or contract surgeon, but after his return from the scenes of war he entered upon the practice of his profession at Oakland City, where he remained until his death, which occurred on March 13, 1895. He was a graduate of the University at Louisville, and was a man of marked intellectual attainments. He was a member of the lower house of the Indiana State Legislature about 1870, being a Democrat in his political world. His widow, who is now seventy-eight years of age, makes her home with the subject of this sketch. He was one of four children, the other three dying in childhood.

The subject of this sketch received his elementary education in the public schools of Oakland City. His father was engaged in the drug business in this city and for a while young McGowan was employed in this store, thus gaining



DR. J. W. MCGOWAN.



first hand much valuable information relative to chemical and pharmaceutical matters. In 1877 young McGowan matriculated in the medical department of the University at Louisville, where he was graduated in 1881 with the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He was then for four years a student at Northwestern University at Chicago, graduating in 1885. He took several post-graduate courses, including one in 1889 at the University at Louisville, and in 1896 at the Post-Graduate Medical School of Chicago. Doctor McGowan began active practice of his profession in 1878 at Eureka, Spencer county, Indiana, but six months later came to Oakland City where he has been engaged continuously in the practice since, with the exception of the years 1889 and 1890, when he was surgeon of the Montana Territory prison at Deer Lodge, Montana. He is a member of the Oakland City Medical Society, of which he is president, and of the Gibson County Medical Society, the Indiana State Medical Society and the American Medical Association. He is surgeon for the Southern Railway and a member of the Association of Surgeons for the Southern Railway. He specializes in surgery and has performed successfully many difficult operations. He possesses a well-equipped office in every respect, including a large and well selected library of professional literature and keeps closely in touch with the most advanced thought relative to his profession. He has been successful in his material affairs and is the owner of a splendid farm a few miles north of Oakland City, where he makes a specialty of breeding and raising trotting horses, having a strong love for those animals.

In December, 1912, Dr. McGowan was married to Audie M. (Traylor) Grim, of Winslow, Indiana.

Politically, Dr. McGowan is a staunch advocate of the Democratic party, and has served as a member of the council of Oakland City and was treasurer of that corporation. Fraternally, he is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons, belonging to the blue lodge, the chapter of Royal Arch Masons, the council of Royal and Select Masters at Oakland City, the commandery of Knights Templar at Princeton, while in the Scottish Rite he belongs to the Lodge of Perfection at Evansville and the Consistory, thirty-second degree, at Indianapolis. He is also a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Tribe of Ben-Hur and the Modern Woodmen of America. Religiously, he is an earnest member of the Methodist Episcopal church, to which he contributes liberally. He is a man of many sterling characteristics of head and heart and among his contemporaries it would be hard to find a record as replete with duty faithfully performed in all the walks of life, while his career in the

humble sphere of private citizenship has been such as to commend him to the favorable consideration of the best people of Gibson county, where he has long maintained his residence.

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### JOHN H. BERGER.

Among the self-made men of Center township, Gibson county, who started in life with practically nothing and have attained to a position of affluence and prominence in the affairs of their locality, is John H. Berger, the proprietor of a one-hundred-and-sixty-acre farm in Center township. He is a type of the farmer who, without money or friends to start in with, relied upon his own determination and ability to gain his success.

John H. Berger was born in Armstrong township, Vanderburg county, Indiana, May 6, 1852, and received a good, practical common school education in the schools of his home county. Early in life he was left to his own resources and worked at any honest toil which offered him a fair return for his labor. In addition to working by the day, he learned the carpenter trade and was in a fair way of making a success of this when his health compelled him to abandon the profession. He then came to Gibson county and began farming in what is now Union township. Later he came to Center township and purchased one hundred and sixty acres. After he had bought his farm he began to improve it in various ways and by a skillful system of crop rotation he increased the productivity of the soil so that he was enabled to realize a handsome return on his farming each year. In addition to raising all the crops of grains common to this locality, he also stocked his farm and added not a little to his annual income from the sale of stock.

Mr. Berger was married on October 24, 1877, to Wilhelmina Haag, the daughter of John and Christina (Schillinger) Haag. His wife's parents were natives of Germany and came to the United States and settled in Vanderburg county, Indiana, among the early settlers of that part of the state. They came to this county before their marriage and were later married in Vanderburg county, where they lived and reared a family. John Haag died as a soldier of the Civil war in Louisiana. Mr. and Mrs. Berger are the parents of four children: John G., a general contractor of this county; Dora M., who married William Strunk, a merchant of Buckskin, Indiana; Emma C., the wife of William H. Block, a farmer of Center township, and



Walter, who is still at home with his parents. About twenty years ago Mr. Berger was severely injured as the result of a fall, and since that time has not been actively engaged in farming. His son, Walter, is now operating the farm under his father's superintendence.

Mr. Berger has been a member of the Republican party since reaching his majority and has been honored by his party on more than one occasion. When he was only twenty-six years of age he was elected township assessor of his township, and discharged the duties of that office in a highly satisfactory manner. In 1900 he was elected county assessor and held that important office for six years, filling it to the entire satisfaction of the citizens of the county. His work as assessor was of such a nature as to render him one of the best men in the employ of the United States census bureau in 1910. He took the examination under the civil service rules and passed with a high grade, and was assigned to Center township.

Religiously, the Berger family are members of the German Evangelical church and contribute liberally of their time and means to its support. Mr. Berger has lived a busy and useful life in this county, and as a private citizen and as a public official he has measured up to the full standard of American citizenship. For this reason he is justly regarded as a representative man of his township and county.

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#### DR. WILLIAM P. WELBORN.

The success of men in business or any vocation depends upon character as well as upon knowledge, it being a self-evident proposition that honesty is the best policy. Business demands confidence and where that is lacking business ends. In every community some men are known for their upright lives, strong common sense and moral worth rather than for their wealth of political standing. Their neighbors and acquaintances respect them, the younger generation heed their example, and when they "wrap the drapery of their couches about them and lie down to pleasant dreams" posterity listens with reverence to the story of their quiet and useful lives. Among such men of a past generation in Indiana was the late Dr. William P. Welborn, of Princeton, Gibson county, Indiana, who was not only a progressive man of affairs successful in material pursuits, but a man of modest and unassuming demeanor, well educated, a fine type of the reliable, self-made American, a friend to the poor, charitable to the faults of his neighbors and always ready

to unite with them in every good work and active in the support of laudable public enterprises. He was proud of Princeton and of the grand state of Indiana and zealous of their progress and prosperity. He was a man who in every respect merited the high esteem in which he was universally held, for he was a man of public spirit, intellectual attainments and exemplary character.

Dr. William P. Welborn was born near Owensville, Indiana, on February 14, 1837, and died at his home in Princeton, on February 12, 1898. His father, Samuel P. Welborn, was one of the early settlers of Gibson county and during his active years was one of the most prominent men in the public affairs of the community. He was the father of eleven children.

Dr. William P. Welborn was reared on a farm and early became accustomed to labor of the most strenuous kind, which, probably more than anything else, fitted him for the battles of his later life, giving him a good physical constitution and habits of industry, perseverance and energy, which contributed largely to his later success. He secured his early education in the district schools and academies and then attended one term in the State University at Bloomington, Indiana. He had early entertained an ambition to become a doctor and with that end in view he began the reading of medicine in the office of Doctor Cook at Owensville, this county, after which he took a full course in a medical college in Philadelphia, where he graduated a year or two prior to the opening of the Civil war. He immediately entered upon the active practice of his profession at Owensville, but upon his country's call for helpers he enlisted in 1862 as assistant surgeon of the Eightieth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, with which command he remained until the close of the war. That he was faithful in the performance of his duty was the unanimous testimony of those who were familiar with his army record and he retired from the service with the consciousness of duty well done. His natural kindness of heart prompted him to do even more than the strict regulations required of him, ministering to the needs of the sick and wounded soldiers. This unremitting service brought serious sickness to himself during his army service and to this sickness can be mainly attributed the disease which remained with him in after life and which eventually resulted in his death. After the close of the war, Doctor Welborn came to Princeton and engaged in the practice of his profession, which commanded his attention until 1870. In that year he was nominated by the Democratic party as a candidate for county clerk, to which office he was elected and entered upon the discharge of his duties. So satisfactory was

his administration that he was re-elected in 1874 and thus completed a service of eight years in the office. During the latter part of his official term Doctor Welborn was appointed receiver for the Gibson County Bank and in addition to his official duties as county clerk, he successfully handled and settled up the affairs of this defunct institution. Upon the expiration of his official term, Doctor Welborn associated with W. D. Downey in the dry goods business, which they carried on for several years, but in the meantime, having been elected cashier of the People's National Bank and finding that the duties of the position required practically all his time, he disposed of his mercantile interests. For over fifteen years prior to his death he served efficiently as cashier of the People's Bank, and the splendid success which attended this institution was largely due to the wise direction and personal influence which he gave to the bank. A deep student of financial questions, his accurate judgment and wise counsels were considered invaluable to those in need of advice and in many ways he contributed largely to the success of several business institutions in this locality. For nearly two decades Mr. Welborn was a member of the city school board and contributed to the extent of his ability to the success of our educational system.

Religiously, Doctor Welborn was a life-long member of the Presbyterian church, with which he became affiliated upon his return from the army, and shortly after which time he was made a ruling elder, serving faithfully and efficiently in this capacity during the remaining years of his life. In this service, as in all others to which he was called, he gave his most sincere and healthy effort. He was devoted to his church and delighted himself in its ordinances. Well and truly has it been said, "The serene, silent beauty of a holy life is the most powerful influence in the world, next to the might of God."

The announcement of Doctor Welborn's death came as a distinct shock to the community which he had so long honored by his residence, though it was well known that his health had been in a precarious condition for several weeks, but he had in so large a measure filled a place in the community that for the time being it seemed as if the loss was irreparable. The funeral services were held at the late home of the deceased on South Hart street, Princeton, on February 14, 1898, the sixty-first anniversary of his birth, and was attended by a vast concourse of friends and citizens who thus desired to pay their last tribute to the honored dead.

As a marked testimonial to the high standing occupied by Doctor Welborn in the community was the public memorial which was held by the con-

gregation of the First Presbyterian church on Sunday, February 20, 1898, the occasion thus giving civic expression to the congregation's sense of loss as well as a tribute to the character and worth of one who had borne so great a part of the work of the church for many years. Among the splendid tributes paid to Doctor Welborn on this occasion the following words are quoted:

From Rev. A. J. Kerr, a former pastor of this church, then residing in New York City:

"As pastor of the church in which he was for many years a ruling elder, and which he loved, and which he knew I loved, I was closely associated with him for almost three years. I saw him in times of perplexity and sorrow as well as in seasons of comfort and satisfaction and joy, and my estimation of him enlarged and my love for him deepened as the months went on.

"What he was as a personal friend thousands can testify. His kindness was so unvarying and so wide in its reach that people went to him as a matter of course, sure of sympathy and aid. His wisdom in business affairs was so conservative, in the sense of that word, so sound that men learned to trust him as a brother, and young men went to him as they would go to a helpful father.

"And now another name, and, I must say in all calmness, one of the truest and greatest in the whole city directory, is added to the number who have gone up to join the company triumphant. He is among those who, having finished their course and kept their faith, are assembled with the apostles and prophets and martyrs and saints in the City of God. What a glorious host! I mourn with his beloved family, with you, with my own family; but I also rejoice with you all because we have another representative among that noble multitude who see God face to face.

"I do not know of any better recommendation of the church of Christ in Princeton than Doctor Welborn. His estimate of the value of Christianity was shown:

(1) By his devotion to the church. He was not a man to devote himself lightly or blindly to anything, but he did devote himself to his church. He was always in his place on the Sabbath day. He loved the services of the sanctuary and allowed them to exercise their due influence upon his life.

(2) He carefully brought up his family in the same way. He led them to the House of God. They didn't wander hither and thither as their miniature fancy might choose. He saw the supreme value of personal re-

ligion to each of them, and what the power of the church is in human lives, and he rejoiced at seeing his four boys fellow members with him in the fold.

(3) His gifts, then, became the natural expression of religion in his heart. He gave largely and liberally to his own church, but his interest went beyond his own. I suppose there were few churches in the whole county that did not share his bounty. But his gifts were not limited there. He appreciated the great work of giving the Gospel to the destitute parts of our land and to the people whose lot is cast under foreign skies, and he gladly contributed to their salvation.

"Doctor Welborn was a frequent representative of his church in the presbytery, where his counsel was highly appreciated, and he was sent more than once to both the state synod and national general assembly, as a fitting man to take part in church affairs that were of world-wide importance.

"I am thankful that I knew him. I rejoice in sharing with you the honor which his life reflects upon our common humanity."

From the Sabbath school of the Presbyterian church was presented a memorial from which the following words are quoted:

"When we contemplate the career of him whose name is on our lips today, we are constrained to say that 'Life is worth living,' and worth living it like steadfast men with Christian faith and trust.

"He was not only a successful man in handling the various temporal affairs with which he was connected all along his life, but gave many years to the most zealous service of the Lord. He was faithful beyond measure to every service of the sanctuary, and seldom indeed was he ever missed from his accustomed place on the Lord's day, from Sabbath school, from prayer meeting, from meetings of the official boards of this, the First Presbyterian church, he loved so well. Loving his church with all the strength of well-grounded principles, he was nevertheless liberal and charitable to the conscientious convictions of those who differed from him.

"As a man he was kind, courteous and warm-hearted; faithful in the discharge of all his duties; earnest and consistent in his devotion to principles; and, always helpful to others, he lived a quiet, useful and godly life.

"He was indeed a man 'diligent in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord.' In him we have a noble example of man, citizen, soldier, merchant, public servant, Christian; and of him we may on this occasion speak rather in the language of a psalm of life than in words befitting a tribute to the dead."

The following was presented as a tribute from the session, of which Doctor Welborn had long been a member:

"Whereas, It has pleased Almighty God, in His great wisdom and love, to call from our church to the church triumphant, our esteemed and much loved brother and elder, Dr. William P. Welborn; and,

"Whereas, The session of this church, recognizing well the valuable and lasting service he so nobly rendered this session and this church, by his Christian life and conduct and by his prudence and wisdom in its highest councils; and being deeply sensible of the loss sustained by this session and this church, he served so faithfully and so well; and recognizing that in all positions which he held he worked earnestly for the advancement of the church and the great cause of his Master, with untiring zeal and devotion. Therefore, be it

"Resolved, That this, the session of the First Presbyterian church of the city of Princeton, Indiana, give this expression of its deep appreciation of his life and labor, and of the love and esteem borne him, who has passed from us, and that it extend its sincere Christian sympathy to his family in their sad bereavement, in the death of a true, loving Christian husband and father, and that these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of this session and a copy be furnished the family."

On May 5, 1869, William P. Welborn was united in marriage with Mary Jerauld, daughter of the late George N. Jerauld, who for so many years was a prominent merchant of Princeton. To that union were born six children, of whom two daughters died in infancy, while four sons survived their father, namely: Jerauld, Oscar, Maurice and Charles.

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### JOHN WHITE.

Clearly defined purpose and consecutive effort in the affairs of life will inevitably result in a due measure of success, but in following out the career of one who has attained success by his own efforts there comes into view the intrinsic individuality which made such accomplishment possible and thus there is granted an objective incentive and inspiration, while at the same there is enkindled a feeling of respect and admiration. The qualities which have made the subject of this sketch one of the prominent and successful farmers and public officials of Gibson county have also brought him the esteem of

his fellow citizens, for his career has been one of well-directed energy, strong determination and honorable methods.

John White, one of the most prominent farmers of Center township, Gibson county, Indiana, was born January 7, 1859, in Evansville, Indiana. His parents were Alfred and Milliscent (Inwood) White, both of whom were natives of England, and his father is still living and at the present time is residing in California at the advanced age of eighty-four years. Mr. and Mrs. Alfred White were the parents of five children, all of whom are living except one daughter.

John White received his early education in the district schools of Vanderburg county, this state, and passed his boyhood days in the city of Evansville, performing all those multitudinous chores which fall to the lot of the average boy. Here he was given that practical, out-door education which has stood him in such good stead in after life. On August 28, 1881, he was married to Sarah J. Scott, and to this union were born six children, Mrs. Laura P. White, of Princeton; Albert, deceased; Caroline, deceased; Frank lives in Terre Haute, Indiana; Mrs. Frances Vaughn lives on a farm near Petersburg, Indiana; Milliscent, of Evansville. Mr. White was married a second time to Pauline George, on October 24, 1909. She was a daughter of John M. and Pauline (Bass) George, her father being a native of France, while her mother was a native of Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. George were the parents of nine children, Mrs. White being the eighth child in order of birth.

Mr. White is engaged in diversified farming and successfully raises all the crops common to this section of the state. He is well read on all the latest and most improved methods of agriculture and does not hesitate to keep himself well supplied with the latest farming implements and machinery. As a result he is justly regarded as one of the most progressive and up-to-date farmers in the township. He has so conducted his affairs that he has been fortunate to lay aside a competence which insures him comfort in his old age. He is a stockholder and director in the Francisco State Bank. Mr. White has always taken an intelligent interest in political affairs. Fraternally, he is a member of the Tribe of Ben-Hur, of Francisco. He and his wife are faithful and earnest members of the Regular Baptist church, and are interested in all the activities which that particular church fosters. Mr. White is a genial, straightforward man, one who has the greatest sympathy for his fellow man, and is always ready to aid and encourage those who are struggling to aid themselves. He is a man of strong convictions and when

he believes that he is on the right side nothing can swerve him from it. Home life with him is a sacred trust and friendships are inviolable. A man of gentle and unassuming demeanor, he has by his strict integrity won the esteem of a large circle of friends and acquaintances in the community which has been honored by his citizenship for so many years.

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#### HENRY F. BROADWELL.

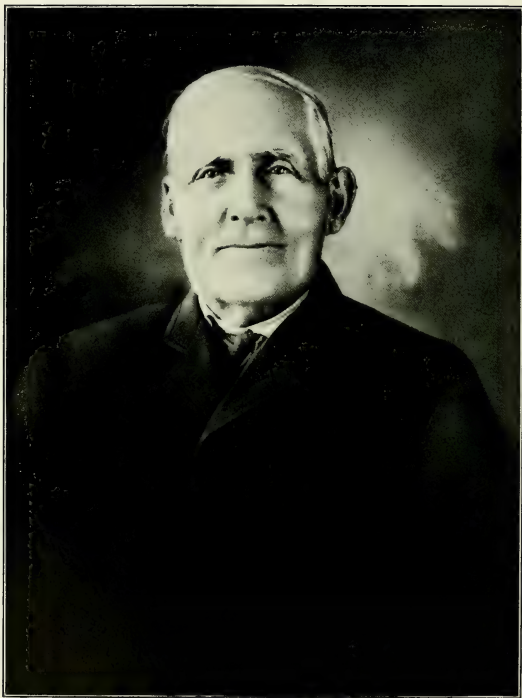
Those who faced every danger and death itself upon the battle fields of the Civil War and bore suffering and made sacrifices for their country's sake are especially deserving of mention in these annals. The younger generation should never forget that to them is due a debt of gratitude which can never be repaid, as the prosperity, liberty and happiness which we now enjoy is the direct outcome of their labors and loyalty. Among the honored veterans who have answered the last roll call, the late Henry F. Broadwell was one who gave three of the best years of his life to the service of his country and then returned to his home and lived a life of usefulness and honor until his death, on September 26, 1908.

Henry F. Broadwell, the son of Henry and Elizabeth (Polson) Broadwell, was born October 1, 1838, in Warrick county, Indiana. His father was a native of North Carolina, while his mother was born in Virginia. His father was one of the earliest settlers of Warrick county and was identified with the agricultural interests of that county all his life.

The subject of this sketch was reared upon the home farm in the usual manner of boys of that period and received the meager schooling which the country schools afforded at the time. When still quite young he began to assist in the duties on the farm, working in the fields from the time of early spring planting until after the crops were harvested in the late autumn. When the news of the fall of Fort Sumter was flashed throughout the country he felt that his first duty was to his country, so he **donned the blue** uniform of the nation and went south in defense of the Union cause. He was a member of Company A, Fifty-eighth Regiment of Indiana Volunteer Infantry, which was recruited in Gibson county, and served with gallant distinction throughout the war. He saw hard fighting and underwent all of those hardships which fell to the lot of every soldier, thus demonstrating his fidelity to his beloved country.







JOSIAH KIGHTLY.

Immediately after the close of the war he returned to this county and married Sarah A. Downing, the daughter of James and Sarah E. (Drysdale) Downing. His wife's father was born in Posey county and her mother in Kentucky. Mr. and Mrs. Broadwell were the parents of a large family of eight children: Mrs. Belle Mead; Mrs. Mary D. Mandis; D. S. Broadwell; James L., deceased; Rufus A.; Mrs. Emma C. Witherspoon; Mrs. Elizabeth E. Boyd; and John W. After the death of her husband, in 1908, Mrs. Broadwell went to live with her son, D. S. Broadwell, and they are now residing on the old home place in Center township. Her son is unmarried and she is still able to do a considerable amount of work despite her advanced age. They are both members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

The late Mr. Broadwell was a life-long Republican and at one time was elected assessor of Center township, an office which he filled to his credit and to the universal satisfaction of the entire township. He always took a very active part in all the deliberations of his party and was frequently consulted by the leaders of his party. His whole life was marked by strict integrity and honest endeavor and he followed a course from which nothing could swerve him as long as he believed he was in the right. This determined loyalty to what he thought was right was one of his strongest and most commendable traits of character and enabled him to command the confidence and esteem of all.

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### FRANCIS J. KIGHTLY.

The life history of him whose name heads this sketch has been for more than three score years closely identified with the history of Gibson county, Indiana. Throughout the years his life has been one of untiring activity and it has been crowned with a degree of success obtained by comparatively few who aspire to leadership in their calling. Years of conscientious work as a farmer have brought him not only a comfortable competence, but the knowledge that he has been of great benefit to the social and moral welfare of his community as well. By a straightforward and honorable course he has been successful to a marked degree and his life affords a splendid example of what an American youth plentifully endowed with good common sense, integrity and determination can accomplish when accompanied by good moral principles. As a citizen he is public spirited and enterprising, and as a friend and neighbor he combines the qualities of head and heart

that have won confidence and commanded respect throughout the county. His entire accomplishments represent the results of the utilization of the innate talents which are his and the directing of his efforts along those lines where mature judgment and rare discrimination have led the way. As a representative of one of the oldest families of the county, he has a heritage of all those good qualities which go to make up a good citizen.

Francis J. Kightly, the son of Josiah and Elizabeth Kightly, was born August 13, 1849, in Evansville, Indiana. His parents were both natives of England, the father's birth occurring January 1, 1822. His father was twice married. After the death of his first wife, October 29, 1865, he married Sarah Wroe on April 8, 1867. To the first marriage were born the following children: Francis Josiah, the immediate subject of this sketch; William Wroe; Sarah Jane; Mary Elizabeth; Samuel Wroe; Emma K. and John Russell. The second union was blessed with the following children: Lucy, Alice May, John William. Mr. Kightly's second wife died January 11, 1898. The sketch of William S. Ennes, elsewhere in this volume, gives additional facts of the Kightly family.

Francis J. Kightly, the eldest son by the first marriage, was educated in the district schools of Gibson county, and in his younger days worked on the farm and has spent his whole life in agricultural pursuits. As a farmer he has adopted all of the modern improvements in that line of endeavor and has five hundred acres of as well improved land as can be found in the state. At the present time he has several tenants on his farms and has retired from the active duties of farm life.

Mr. Kightly has been twice married. His first wife was Lucinda Edwards, of this county, to whom he was married on September 1, 1880. After the death of his first wife he was united in marriage, on April 28, 1903, to Dell Brimer, the daughter of James and Cynthia (Key) Brimer. Mr. Key is a native of Kentucky and his wife of England.

Mr. Kightly has been a life-long Republican, but the fact that his township and county is overwhelmingly Democratic has kept him from being an office holder. He has been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Hazelton for more than thirty-five years, and has always taken a prominent part in the deliberations of that order. He has always affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal church at Hazelton and has been a liberal contributor to the support of that denomination. Mrs. Kightly is a member of the General Baptist church.

Mr. Kightly comes of a splendid family, one of the oldest in the county,

and has always been strong for right living and industrious habits, for education and morality, for loyalty to the government and for all that contributes to the welfare of the community. Sheer force of personality and determination, coupled with soundness of judgment and keen discrimination, has brought him the success which he so rightly deserves. He has proved an honorable member of the body politic and in every relation of life has never fallen below the true dignity of manhood, nor in any way resorted to methods that invited the censure of his fellow citizens. As the scion of a most excellent family he has maintained the prestige of all the honored descendants of that family.

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### MARYFIELD M. COLEMAN.

It is a well authenticated fact that success comes as the result of legitimate and well applied energy, unflagging determination and perseverance in a course of action, when once decided upon. She is never known to smile upon the idler or dreamer and she never courts the loafer, and only the men who have diligently sought her favor are crowned with her blessings. In tracing the history of the influential farmer and representative citizen of Oakland City, Gibson county, whose name forms the caption of this review, it is plainly seen that the prosperity which he enjoys has been won by commendable qualities and it is also his personal worth that has gained for him the high esteem of those who know him.

Maryfield M. Coleman first saw the light of day on March 8, 1845, in Monroe township, Pike county, Indiana, being a son of Conrad and Nellie Coleman. Conrad Coleman was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in 1800 and his wife was born in Pike county, Indiana, in 1812. When a boy Conrad Coleman went with his father, Joseph, to Barren county, Kentucky, where they got wild land which they cleared and established their home. Joseph Coleman was a prosperous farmer in his day, and was the owner of considerable land.

When a boy of four years, Conrad Coleman lost his lower left arm, being injured in an old corn mill. He attended school at Glasgow, Kentucky, receiving an excellent education for those days. He remained under the parental roof until he reached the age of twenty-one years, and in 1830 he came to Indiana, locating in Monroe township, Pike county, where he got wild land. In all, he acquired six hundred and forty acres, and

had a large portion of it cleared. He raised and dealt extensively in live stock, cattle, horses, sheep, mules and jacks. He seemed to be but slightly handicapped by the loss of his arm and in his prime could use an ax and accomplish as much hard work as one whole in body. He was a man of great energy and ability who took a great interest in the progress of affairs in his county. It was he who made the first assessment of the whole of Pike county and did a great deal of other tedious clerical work in the same cause. At the age of forty-five, his health failed him, probably due to the ceaseless demands upon his strength, and he then retired from active labor for the rest of his life. His death occurred July 19, 1855, and his wife lived until the fall of 1880. He was originally a Whig, but at the dissolution of that party, gave his earnest support to the Republican party. He was a consistent member of the Baptist church and did much to further the cause of that society in his community. To Conrad Coleman and wife were born ten children, namely: Jane, deceased, married John LeMaster and had three children; Mary Emily, deceased, the wife of Jackson Pancake, deceased; Luvina, deceased, the wife of John Mason, who died at Nashville, Tennessee, during the Civil War; Joseph V., a retired farmer living in Oakland City, who married Barbara Beatty; Henry, deceased, a farmer in Pike county, who married Elizabeth Parker; Mahala, deceased, who married John English; Maryfield M., the immediate subject of this sketch; Joshua, deceased, who married Nancy Deter, of Pike county; Nancy Ellen, the wife of James Gillman, residing in the same county, and Susan, who died when small.

Maryfield M. Coleman received but a small amount of schooling when a lad, and remained with his parents until seventeen, when he started out in life for himself. On April 5, 1866, he was united in marriage with Catherine Nossett, of Columbia township, Gibson county, a daughter of William Nossett, who had come from Ohio originally, and was one of the first settlers in Columbia township. He was a farmer and also a blacksmith, and both he and his wife closed their lives at the home they had made when coming to Gibson county. To Mr. Coleman, by his first marriage, were born five children, the eldest being Warrick, druggist and trustee, at Winslow, Indiana; Lucy, the wife of George Duncan, of Pike county, Indiana; Edgar, who is a breeder of fine cattle and jacks, at Muren, Indiana. His wife was Carrie Humsucker. The fourth child is Millard, who is in the livery business at Oakland City. His wife was Zillie Reed. The fifth child was Ada, who died when sixteen years of age. Catherine Nos-

sett Coleman died July 25, 1890, and he was married for the second time, on July 30, 1901, to Catherine Martin, of Pike county. She was the widow of Adam Martin and a daughter of Joseph and Margaret (Kime) Loveless. The mother was originally from Tennessee, while the father is a native of Pike county, whose father was one of the first settlers there, coming from South Carolina. Joseph Loveless died March 28, 1873, and his wife's death occurred July 23, 1901.

Maryfield M. Coleman was only twenty years of age when he returned from the war and settled in Monroe township, Pike county. He secured a tract of heavily timbered land which he cleared off and started to make a comfortable home. Here he lived for thirty years and had two hundred and seventy acres of land under cultivation. On July 10, 1895, he left his home and moved to Oakland City, where he has since resided. He clerked for a while and also sold clothing and dry goods for two years.

It was on December 9, 1861, that Mr. Coleman enlisted in Company D, Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, in Pike county, Indiana. He was sent to Evansville, then to Indianapolis, and then to Camp Short, at Louisville. He was not there long and was sent on to Nashville, Tennessee, where his company engaged in the battle of Shiloh, and was afterwards in pursuit of General Bragg to Louisville, Nashville and Bardstown, Kentucky, and engaged in the battle of Perryville. They were ordered on to Nashville and were in the important engagements of the war; the battle of Stone's River, Chattanooga, Chickamauga, and Missionary Ridge. They were later ordered to Chattanooga, and on May 12, 1864, his regiment started on the Atlanta campaign, with Sherman, and continued with him on his march to the sea. On January 20, 1865, they had reached Savannah, Georgia, on the return trip, and, passing on through the Carolinas and Virginia, participated in the Grand Review at Washington, D. C., in May, 1865. He was then returned to Louisville and received his discharge on July 25, 1865. He went to Indianapolis to be paid off, and then returned home, having seen an unusual amount of active service and having gone through the various engagements unscathed. Mr. Coleman is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, at Oakland City, and his religious connection is with the Presbyterian church at that place.

On account of their many agreeable qualities, Mr. and Mrs. Coleman have endeared themselves to the people of Oakland City, and as he is a man of upright character, unalterably opposed to all forms of lawlessness, he holds an enviable position in the regard of the community.

## JAMES W. KEY.

The life history of James W. Key, one of the well known and highly esteemed venerable citizens of Gibson county, now living in honorable retirement, shows what industry, good habits and stanch citizenship will accomplish in the battle for success in life. His record has been one replete with duty well and conscientiously performed in every relation of life. He has come down to us from the pioneer period and has noted the wondrous transformation from that time to this, playing his part in the drama of civilization. He has thus been an advocate of wholesome living and cleanliness in politics as well and has always stood for the highest and best interests of the community in which so many of his active years have been passed and which has been honored by his citizenship.

James W. Key is a native of Gibson county, born on the 10th day of March, 1832, near Hazelton. He is a son of William and Sarah (Bruner) Key, both of whom were natives of Kentucky and were among the earlier settlers of Gibson county. They were married in 1831 and William Key died August 12, 1836, leaving his young widow and three small children, the eldest of whom was James W., the subject of this sketch. William Key was born in 1804 and his death occurred on August 12, 1836. His widow afterward became the wife of John Ewing, who was of Irish stock and a pioneer settler in Gibson county, Indiana, owning a good farm in White River township. Mr. Ewing died on November 27, 1859, and was survived many years by his widow, who died on August 5, 1896, when past eighty-eight years of age. To Mr. and Mrs. Ewing were born two children, namely: Mary, who became the wife of Samuel Argrove, of Pike county, and who died on March 11, 1885; she was the mother of two children, Minnie and John E. The other child, John W. Ewing, who was born February 14, 1850, in Gibson county, Indiana, died in February, 1909. The marriage of William Key to Sarah Bruner occurred in 1831, and at the time of his death he left, besides his widow, three small children, the eldest of whom was James W., the immediate subject of this sketch.

The subject's paternal grandfather, William Key, Sr., was a native of Kentucky, and to his marriage with Hannah Level were born a large family of children. William Key, Sr., was a man of industrious habits and was a genius in that he could do many things and do them all well. He was by trade a millwright, and after coming to Indiana made his home at Princeton. While





MR. AND MRS. JAMES W. KEY.



building a mill on South Hart street, that city, he fell forty feet, sustaining injuries, from which, however, he recovered and lived to be past eighty-five years of age. In later life he took up shoemaking and coopering. He was a man of cheerful and jovial disposition and was widely known and well liked by all who knew him.

James W. Key is the only one of his father's family who is living today, and he has attained an advanced age well preserved in mind and body and with a keen interest in current events. His schooling in his youth was limited, partly owing to the limited circumstances of his mother and partly to indifferent opportunities at best. When quite young he took up the vocation of farming, which he has followed all his life and is at present living on his farm in White River township, Gibson county, in retirement from the active affairs of life, surrounded by his family.

On September 28, 1858, Mr. Key was married to Ellen J. McClure, daughter of Joseph E. and Katherine (Devin) McClure, both of whom were natives of Gibson county and passed their entire lives within its borders. To their union were born ten children, namely: James and Joseph P., deceased; Luella, Ada J., Sarah F., Katherine A. and Charles E., all of whom reside at home with the parents, the latter having charge of the operation of the farm for his father. William F. is engaged in farming in White River township, Gibson county; his wife was Eva Gouff, of Kentucky. Margaret E. is the wife of John Stewart, a farmer of Gibson county, and Robert S., whose wife was Geneva Harvey, is engaged in agricultural work in Patoka township. On September 28, 1908, Mr. and Mrs. Key celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage in a fitting manner and are still spared to each other. They have many interesting incidents to relate of the earlier life in the county before many of our present-day conveniences were thought of. Mr. Key has lived in the same place since he was three years old and well remembers when the first railroad was built through this section and when wood was the fuel used on the locomotive. The house they occupy was built in 1874. The subject and his wife have twelve grandchildren.

Mr. Key is a staunch Republican of the old school who has always been interested in the affairs of the party, and his religious membership is with the Methodist Episcopal church, in the progress of which society's affairs he takes great pleasure.

Personally, Mr. Key is a man of clean character and has ever exerted a healthful influence in the community, giving his support to every movement

which promised to advance the welfare of the community in any way. Because of his genuine worth and the success which has crowned his life's efforts, he enjoys the sincere respect of all who know him and he is eminently entitled to representation in a work of the character of the one in hand.

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DR. JOHN M. WILLIAMS.

There is no class to whom greater gratitude is due from the world at large than the self-sacrificing, sympathetic, noble-minded men whose life work is the alleviation of suffering and the ministering of comfort to the afflicted, to the end that the span of human existence may be lengthened and a great degree of satisfaction enjoyed during the remainder of their earthly sojourn. There is no standard by which their beneficial influence can be measured; their helpfulness is limited only by the extent of their knowledge and skill, while their power goes hand in hand with the wonderful laws of nature that spring from the very source of life itself. Some one has aptly said, "He serves God best who serves humanity most." Among the physicians and surgeons of Gibson county who have risen to eminence in their chosen field of endeavor is the subject of this review, whose career has been that of a broad-minded, conscientious worker in the sphere to which his life and energies have been devoted and whose profound knowledge of his profession has won for him a leading place among the most distinguished medical men of his day and generation in the city of his residence.

Dr. John M. Williams, the son of Simon and Lavina (Sharer) Williams, was born January 25, 1857, in Vanderburg county, near the city of Evansville, Indiana. His father was a native of Posey county, Indiana, and was a son of Bennett Williams, while his mother's birth occurred in Gibson county. Mr. and Mrs. Simon Williams began their married life in Vanderburg county, but removed to Gibson county, Fort Branch, in 1870, where Mr. Williams lived a retired life until his death, three years later. His wife survived him several years, living with her son in Owensville, where her death occurred in 1896.

Doctor Williams lived with his parents in Vanderburg county on the home farm until 1870, at which time he removed with his parents to Fort Branch. He attended the common schools of that village, graduating from the high school in due course of time, after which he took a course at In-



DR. J. M. WILLIAMS.



diana University at Bloomington. He had always been a close student, and after graduating from the high school, secured a license to teach and taught one year before he entered the State University. For the next three years he taught during the winters and attended the university during the spring and summer seasons, completing his education in 1878.

While still in school at the university, Mr. Williams began the study of medicine at Fort Branch by reading in the office of one of the old practitioners there. He thought that in the practice of medicine there were greater advantages for doing good in his community than by following the profession of teaching. By the fall of 1879 he had saved enough money to warrant him going to Cincinnati and starting in to take the regular medical course in the E. M. Institute of that city. He was a student at this institution for the next two years, graduating in 1881. Immediately after graduation he opened an office in Fort Branch, in Gibson county, but in the fall of that year he moved to Owensville, where he has practiced continuously since. In Owensville and vicinity his name is a household word, for not only has he treated the children of the community in their infancy, but he has seen them grow up, marry and then has ministered unto their children. With rare skill and resource, with quick perception and almost intuitive judgment, he has made a name for himself in this community. His ability to make a correct diagnosis and then prescribe the proper treatment to be used has brought him a practice second to none in the county. During all the years he has been a close student of medical science, keeping in touch with the latest advances along that line and thereby has won the complete confidence of the whole community. His wide practice has been remunerative and he has shown the same ability in his business affairs which has brought him success in the medical profession. He assisted in the organization of the First National Bank of Owensville in 1900, and has been a director in that institution continuously since. In addition to his banking interests he has made large investments in land, owning at the present time several hundred acres of the best land in Gibson county. This success in his business affairs has been owing to his steady persistence, sterling integrity and excellent judgment, and yet he has not allowed his material success to blind him to the interests of the community at large. He has always been a contributor to everything having for its object the moral, social or educational advancement of his community.

Doctor Williams was married November 1, 1883, to Margaret Montgomery, a native of Owensville, the daughter of James and Louisa (Lucas)

Montgomery. Her father was a very successful grain merchant of that city and one of its leading citizens, and his death occurred in that place in 1891. Doctor Williams and his wife are the parents of one child, Gertrude, who is at home with her parents.

Doctor Williams and his family are members of the General Baptist church, to which institution they contribute liberally of their means, and in which they have always taken an active interest, and have been the means of doing an incalculable amount of good in their church work. As a member of the Owensville Medical Society and the County Medical Society, Doctor Williams has been no inconsiderable factor in advancing the medical interests of the town and county. With his professional skill he combines rare sympathy and thereby adds to his efficiency as a practitioner. He is devoted to his chosen vocation and has lent honor and dignity to the medical profession, having due regard for the highest standard of professional ethics and exhibiting marked skill in the treatment of diseases. Such men are blessings to every community in which they live.

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### JAMES H. COCKRUM.

In examining the life records of the citizens of Gibson county it is gratifying to note that so many of her people have been born and reared here; in fact, have spent their entire lives in this vicinity. It proves the stability of the people and also indicates that this is an excellent place to live and that a livelihood may be here obtained with the least expenditure of labor possible, so that we have a quiet, satisfied, law-abiding and worthy citizenship and a fair and prosperous country, equal to any in the sisterhood of counties in the great Hoosier commonwealth. The Cockrums are among the honored pioneer citizens here and they have done their full share of the work of furthering the development of the county.

James H. Cockrum, a well known citizen of Gibson county and a former postmaster at Oakland City, was born in the city now honored by his residence, on April 23, 1868, a son of James M. and Sarah Frances (Thomas) Cockrum, the father a native of Gibson county, and the mother of the state of Kentucky. James M. Cockrum was a farmer, merchant, attorney and in early life a successful shipper. In all the avenues of life's activities in which



he engaged he was successful and because of his persevering industry, sound judgment and integrity of character, he not only enjoyed success in life's affairs, but what was of more value, the confidence and esteem of the people with whom he mingled. His death occurred in 1903. He had served as postmaster at Oakland City under the administration of President Harrison, and in 1907 represented Gibson county in the state Legislature. He was a prominent supporter of the Republican party in this locality and exerted considerable influence in local public affairs. Religiously, he was a trustee of the General Baptist church at Oakland City for many years, while fraternally, he was identified with the Free and Accepted Masons and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He was a veteran of the Civil war, having served as a private in the Forty-second Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry and rendered valiant service for his country. His widow now lives at Oakland City. They were the parents of eight children, namely: Sallie E., deceased, December 10, 1913; James H.; Charles V., of Kansas City, Missouri; Edna, the assistant postmistress at Oakland City; Thomas R., of Princeton, and Ralph N., of Kansas City.

James H. Cockrum was educated in the public schools of Oakland City, and his first efforts in life on his own account were as a farmer and stock raiser, operating a farm adjoining the city on the north. He has been successful in this vocation and still lives on the farm which he formerly operated. On February 22, 1910, Mr. Cockrum was appointed postmaster of Oakland City, and discharged the duties of that office in a manner which won for him the commendation of his superiors in the department and the favor of the patrons of the office. He retired from the postoffice on April 1, 1914. Politically, he is a staunch supporter of the Republican party, and has for many years been prominent and active in political work. Religiously, he is a member of the General Baptist church, while fraternally, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in both subordinate lodge and encampment, and the Modern Woodmen of America.

On February 28, 1906, Mr. Cockrum married Ada Burba, the daughter of R. C. Burba, of Oakland City, and to this union have been born three daughters: Esther Grace, Jennie Frances and Jessie Lee. Mr. Cockrum has always been interested in the welfare and progress of his native county and in the development of its resources he gives his assistance and influence to all laudable means and measures toward these ends. He possesses a forceful personality and is well liked by all who know him.

## WILLIAM DANIEL KENDLE.

A review of the life of the honored subject of this memoir must of necessity be brief and general in its character. To enter fully into the interesting details of the career of the late William Daniel Kendle, touching the struggles of his early manhood and the successes of his later years, would far transcend the limits of this article. He filled a large place in the ranks of the active, energetic and public-spirited citizens of his day and generation and the memories which attach to his name and character form no inconsiderable chapter in the history of his native county, where he passed his life, doing good to all whenever possible.

William Daniel Kendle was a native of Gibson county, born in Patoka township, on November 21, 1838, and he departed this life in Princeton, Indiana, November 29, 1898. He was a son of George Kendle, born April 7, 1812, in Washington county, Tennessee, whose first wife was Lucinda Denbo, born October 19, 1813. His second wife was Pauline Embree, born April 1, 1821. She was the widow of John Embree and a daughter of George Barker. He was a farmer who came to Gibson county and settled in Patoka township, west of Princeton. Here he obtained a tract of land which he farmed during the rest of his life.

George Kendle had come with his parents from Tennessee to Harrison county, Indiana, in 1814, and he remained with them until February of 1837, when he started out for Gibson county. Upon his arrival here, he selected land about five miles west of Princeton, in Patoka township. Here he lived for many years and in 1872 retired from active work on his farm and moved to Princeton, where he passed the remainder of his life. His long years of residence in a community rapidly changing from the frontier to a thickly settled territory with all modern advantages, were for him years of activity and doubtless of enjoyment. He was ever found anxious to do anything that would advance the welfare of the community. George Kendle and wife were the parents of five children, namely: William Daniel, the subject of this sketch; John R., born September 14, 1840; Mary E., born October 18, 1842; Elizabeth, born August 28, 1844; Susan D., born April 15, 1846, and Sarah J., born July 22, 1848.

William Daniel Kendle received only a limited schooling in his youth, owing to the limited circumstances of his parents and the meager opportunities offered at best, and he remained at his father's home until his marriage. He chose as his bride Mary Spore, born in Princeton, and a daugh-

ter of David and Lucinda (Mauck) Spore. The mother was a native of Gibson county, Indiana, and the father came from Knoxville, Tennessee. When a young man he came on a prospecting trip to Gibson county, and was later joined by his father and mother and the other members of the family. They obtained a tract of wild land which they cleared, and on which they passed the remainder of their lives. He died in his sixty-fifth year and she was in her sixty-fourth. They were the parents of seven children, namely: Jacob, Henry, Robert, David, Elbert, Sallie and Betsy. The Spores were devout members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

David Spore and wife had nine children, of which Julius, who was a farmer living near Owensville, and whose wife was Mary McCrary, was the oldest; both are now dead; William, living in Princeton; Thomas, living near Oakland City, Indiana; Andrew, a retired farmer living in Owensville, Indiana; Isaac, deceased, was a farmer, near Owensville; Maggie married Baker Lucas, both deceased; Amanda married Isaac Woods, both deceased; John, deceased, lived in Patoka township. Mrs. Kendle, widow of William Daniel Kendle, was the third oldest child of this family in the order of birth.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Kendle settled down on his father's place, in Patoka township, and engaged in general farming, paying particular attention to the raising of first class live stock. Here they remained until 1885, when they removed to Princeton, where he died. He was a man, quiet and unassuming and whose sterling worth won for him many warm friends. He was a kind and loving husband and father, and a man possessed of unusual business ability, as his activities showed. To Mr. and Mrs. Kendle were born four children, namely: Lucinda, born June 18, 1862, first married to William McCarty, of Princeton, and later to L. Wilhite, of Princeton. She is the mother of two children: Arthur, of Princeton, married Matilda Binkley and Florence, of Patoka township, married Lowell Westfall. Emma was born October 6, 1865, married Julius Gamble. She died June 1, 1904. Lizzie was born in 1870, and married John Massey, of Princeton. She has one son, Percy. Dovie was born in 1881 and married George B. Grigsby, of Princeton; they have one daughter, Isabelle.

Mr. Kendle was a man of undoubted integrity who held the confidence of all who knew him, and because of his excellent qualities he was quite often called upon to settle estates of deceased friends and to see that orphans were properly provided for, and took pleasure in attending to duties thus imposed upon him. He gave his political support to the

Democratic party, but was not given to any active interest in its affairs. His religious sympathies were with the White Baptist church, and he took great interest in the welfare of this society. Altogether, his was a well-balanced, rational life; the quiet, sane life whose influence is all on the side of good and cannot be estimated from any earthly standpoint. Like the ever widening circles from a pebble cast into a body of water, so the influence of good deeds, too, are ever widening circles, beating at last upon the shores of eternity.

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### J. W. CUNNINGHAM.

Among the honorable and influential citizens of Gibson county, Indiana, is the subject of this review, who has here maintained his home for many years, winning a definite success by means of the agricultural industry to which he has devoted his attention during the years of an active business life. His career has been without shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil, and thus he has ever commanded the confidence and esteem of his fellow men.

Joseph W. Cunningham was born on July 2, 1853, at Giro, White River township, Gibson county, the son of John and Phoebe (Key) Cunningham, the former a native of White River township, Gibson county, and the latter born on North Hart street, Princeton. John Cunningham was a son of one of Princeton's township's early settlers, who came from Georgia about 1803, settling east of Hazelton, in the midst of heavy timber, which he cleared from the tract of land which he had secured and developed a splendid farm. His first home was a log cabin, and in this the family lived until able to erect a more substantial and attractive home. He was the father of five sons: Stewart, Samuel, Joseph, John and Giles, all of whom became farmers in White River township, except Joseph, who finally located at King's Station, this county. They also had two daughters, Cynthia, the wife of Joseph Hayes, and another one who became the wife of Joseph Decker. John Cunningham received only a common school education, and as a young man engaged in the mercantile business at Buena Vista, Indiana, and also became connected with the pork packing industry. He shipped large quantities of pork, produce, corn, walnut lumber, etc., to New Orleans on flat boats, and acquired a considerable quantity of valuable farm land. He died in 1860 while making a trip south with produce. His widow afterwards married

David Robb in 1864, and they located seven miles north of Princeton, on the old Robb farm, where they both died. To John Cunningham and his wife were born the following children: Faviila, deceased, the wife of Jasper N. Davidson, of Princeton; William Green, deceased, who married Mary Hitch, now living in Patoka; Joseph W., the immediate subject of this sketch; Arminta, deceased; John, who died at the age of twenty-one years. To Mr. and Mrs. Robb were born two children, Anna, the wife of Charles Parrett, of White River township, Gibson county, and Nora, the wife of Oscar Spare, who lives south of Princeton.

Joseph W. Cunningham received the advantages of a common school education at Patoka and Deckard, Indiana. He lived at home with his step-father and mother until he was twenty-three years of age, when he located on the Barnes place in White River township, to the operation of which he devoted himself continuously, and with splendid success, until August 6, 1913, when he retired from the farm and moved to Princeton, establishing himself in a home at No. 219 South Main street. He is the owner of four hundred acres of land in White River township, which has been maintained at the highest standard of agricultural excellence, being numbered among the best farming tracts of the county. In addition to agriculture, Mr. Cunningham was engaged for many years in the buying of grain and stock and also assisted in the organization of the bank at Patoka, being at this time one of the directors of that institution. Starting in life with practically no assistance, he has achieved this splendid success entirely by his own efforts, and is entitled to his due share of credit for what he has accomplished.

When twenty-three years old Mr. Cunningham was united in marriage with Nan Tribbett, a native of Gibson county, Indiana, who was born on the old Tribbett farm north of Princeton and whose death occurred in 1906. On November 11, 1908, Mr. Cunningham married Christine Bennett, who was born in Jacksonville, Morgan county, Illinois, but resided in Gibson county at the time of her marriage. She is the daughter of Isaac and Martha (Latham) Bennett, her father a native of Morgan county, Illinois, and the mother of Gibson county, Indiana. By his first marriage, Mr. Cunningham became the father of the following children: Byron, who died April 12, 1910, was a school teacher for many years, and later cashier in the Patoka National Bank at Patoka. Gerald, who was educated in the schools at Patoka and the public schools at Louisville, Kentucky, and Indianapolis, Indiana, is now a successful dentist at Princeton. Roy T. graduated from the Patoka schools, and later attended a technical school at Boston, Massachu-

setts, in which he took the electrical course, and also took the musical course in the conservatory at Warren, Ohio. He went to Washington, D. C., where he became the leader of the Fourth Regimental Band, being assigned to Fort Monroe, Virginia. There he took up military studies and was one of the class of four who graduated, receiving his commission as second lieutenant in the coast defense department. He has been stationed at Fort Morgan for the last two years, having charge of the Thirty-ninth Regimental Band. He is an excellent musician, being a splendid performer on almost all the band instruments. George, who is unmarried and remains at home, is the owner of a farm in White River township, in this county, and is interested with his father.

In politics, Mr. Cunningham has always been allied with the Democratic party, and has always taken an interest in Democratic affairs in this locality. Religiously, Mrs. Cunningham is a member of the First Presbyterian church at Princeton. Mr. Cunningham is a man of splendid influence in his community, having been a very industrious man and having had an honorable career, setting a worthy example to the younger generation of this community and giving his own children a splendid training. He is regarded as a public-spirited man, and can always be counted on to support the right side of any movement involving the moral, educational or social welfare of his fellow citizens.

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### SAMUEL T. HESTON.

That life is the most useful and desirable that results in the greatest good to the greatest number, and though all do not reach the heights to which they aspire, yet in some measure each can win success and make life a blessing to his fellow men. It is not necessary for one to occupy eminent public positions to do so, for in the other walks of life there remains much good to be accomplished and many opportunities for the exercise of talents and influence that in some way will touch the lives of those with whom we come in contact, making them better and brighter. In the list of Gibson county's successful citizens, Samuel T. Heston has long occupied a prominent place. In his record there is much that is commendable, and his career forcibly illustrates what a life of energy can accomplish when plans are wisely laid and actions are governed by right principles, noble aims and high ideals. In his public career, as well as in his private life, no word of suspicion has ever been

breathed against him. His actions are the result of careful and conscientious thought, and when once convinced that he is right, no suggestion of personal profit or policy can swerve him from the course he has decided on. In offering the following brief resume of his life it is believed that it will serve as an incentive to the youth whose careers are yet matters for the future to determine.

Samuel T. Heston was born in Gibson county, Indiana, May 12, 1869, the son of Joseph S. and Margaret A. (Wallace) Heston. The father was born in Ellicot City, Maryland, and came west in 1855, following the business of milling for some time after his arrival in Indiana and later turning to farming and stock raising, in which he was very successful. To Joseph S. and Margaret Heston were born six children: Samuel T., with whom this narrative deals; Olive B., who married John E. Joyce, of Princeton; Eunice E., who married Harry K. Stormont; and three children who are deceased.

After acquiring an elementary education in the district schools, Mr. Heston attended Eastman College at Poughkeepsie, New York, later taking a course in the business college at Lexington, Kentucky. After completing this commercial course the subject was employed as bookkeeper for the Moore Milling Company at King's Station, which occupation he followed for about two years, and then helped to organize the Farmers Bank, in 1886, and is still connected with that institution. He started in the bank as assistant cashier, then became cashier and eventually president. The institution has grown and prospered until it is one of the best banking houses of its class in the community. The capital stock is \$100,000, and the institution, which was a state bank for twenty years, was changed to a national bank, and now is called the Farmers' National Bank.

In addition to his financial interests at Princeton, Mr. Heston is also president of the Bankers National Bank of Evansville, Indiana, which he organized in 1907, with a capital stock of \$250,000.

For four years Mr. Heston served as city treasurer, and filled that responsible office in a manner that gave entire satisfaction to the tax payers. Among Mr. Heston's other business connections, he is director and treasurer of the Mechanics Building and Loan Association and is also on the board of directors of the Perpetual Building, Loan and Savings Association. He was one of the organizers of the Farmers' Oil Company and is still a stockholder, although not at present holding an office in that corporation. When the Evansville & Princeton traction line was projected, he was one of the prime movers and was its first treasurer.

In 1890 Mr. Heston was united in marriage to Sarah F. Grace, daughter of Benjamin and Merchans Grace, who lived in Michigan and never moved to this state. To this union have been born five children: Gladys G., Joseph S., Darwin M., Edwin B. and George W., all living at home.

In politics Mr. Heston supports the Democratic party, while his religious affiliations are with the First Presbyterian church. The home of Mr. Heston at 603 South Main street, is a model of all that a modern, comfortable, hospitable home should be. His father died in 1911, the mother having passed away five years before, in 1906.

The Heston family at one time owned fourteen hundred acres of land, and Mr. Heston and his sisters are now the possessors of twelve hundred acres.

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#### GEORGE WITHERSPOON.

It cannot be other than interesting to note in the series of personal sketches appearing in this work the varying conditions that have compassed those whose careers are outlined, and the effort has been made in each case to throw well focused light on the individuality and to bring into proper perspective the scheme of each respective career. Each man who strives to fulfill his part in connection with human life and human activities is deserving of recognition, whatever may be his field of endeavor, and it is the function of works of this nature to perpetuate for future generations an authentic record concerning those represented in its pages, and the value of such publications is certain to be cumulative for all time to come, showing forth the individual and specific accomplishments of which generic history is ever engendered.

George Witherspoon, the son of W. P. and Sitha A. (McDonald) Witherspoon, was born September 17, 1858, in Gibson county, Indiana, his father being a native of Tennessee, while his mother was born in North Carolina. His father came from Tennessee when he was about eighteen years of age and settled in Columbia township, this county, where he taught school for a number of years. With the money saved from his teaching, together with what he earned in the summers by farm work, he was enabled to buy a farm south of Oakland City. Later he disposed of this tract and secured a farm near Francisco, but in 1863, he moved to Illinois and lived on a farm in Vermillion county in that state, for the remainder of his days.



Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Witherspoon, the subject of this sketch being the second in order of birth.

George Witherspoon was educated in the district schools of Vermillion county, Illinois. As a farmer's boy he was the recipient of all those advantages which fall to the lot of the boy on the farm, and there learned all the intricacies which the successful farmer must have at his command. He was married October 4, 1893, to Mary Wood, daughter of John and Lovvie (Ireland) Wood, and to their union have been born two children: Lura, born November 6, 1894, who is now attending the high school at Francisco and will graduate in spring of 1914; Edna, born June 6, 1899, is also a student in the Francisco high school, from which she will graduate in 1915. John Wood, a native of England, came to this country with his parents and the rest of the family. They first settled in Vanderburg county, Indiana, near Warrenton, and later moved to the farm where they lived the rest of their lives. John Wood came here after his marriage and bought a farm in Center township where he remained all his life. Lovvie Ireland was a native of Gibson county. Her parents were early settlers in this county and are referred to elsewhere in this volume.

Mr. Witherspoon is living on his fine farm of one hundred and eighty acres and in addition to his general farming, makes a specialty of breeding fine Percheron horses. He has registered his farm under the laws of Indiana as the "Sunnyside Stock Farm." He keeps well informed on the latest and most improved methods of farming and has his farm equipped with all the latest improved machinery, and as a result he has been very successful in the prosecution of his chosen vocation and is fast accumulating a very comfortable competence for his old age. He is now getting ready to build a modern home and expects to have it completed within the coming year.

Mr. Witherspoon has been a life-long member of the Republican party, but has never sought any political office, being content to devote all of his time and attention to his agricultural and stock raising interests. He and his wife are loyal and earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Francisco, and are actively interested in all the different organizations of the church. Every movement which has for its object the bettering of the social or civic life of the community finds a ready helper in Mr. Witherspoon, and because of the clean life he has led in this community and the worthy movements which he has helped, his friends and acquaintances are found everywhere throughout the community.

## CUNACUM McELLINEY.

The United States is the most cosmopolitan nation of the earth. Her citizens are drawn from every country and clime, and a residence of a few years in this country so imbues them with the American spirit that they become among our best citizens. No nation has furnished better or more substantial citizens to this country than has the little island of Ireland. From the Emerald Isle has come many a family which has won an honored place in the community in which they chose to settle. Among the many families of Irish descent who have come to this state, there is none who are more loyal to their adopted country than the McElhiney family of Gibson county.

Cunacum McElhiney, the son of John and Mary J. (Curscadin) McElhiney, was born November 19, 1875, at Princeton, Indiana. His father and mother were married in Ireland and came to this country in 1866, landing at New York. Later they moved westward and settled in Princeton, Indiana. John McElhiney was a millwright in the old country and when he came to Gibson county he followed his trade and also was a watchman at an engine house in Princeton for several years. Afterward he engaged in farming, continuing in that occupation until his death. To Mr. and Mrs. John McElhiney were born nine children, some of whom were born in the old country.

Cunacum McElhiney received his elementary education in the district schools of Gibson county, and early in life started out to make his own way. He was first a bricklayer and plasterer and worked at his trade for several years. He then bought a small tract of land and went to farming, and by hard work and wise management he has become a very successful farmer in this county, and is the owner of one hundred acres of good land with a beautiful home on it.

Mr. McElhiney was married December 14, 1899, to Ida Legier, the daughter of Amos and Mary (Wallace) Legier, both natives of Gibson county, and to this union there have been born two children, Earl, born January 25, 1902, and Lloyd, born November 27, 1912.

Politically, Mr. McElhiney is an ardent Prohibitionist and does all he can to further the interests of his party. He is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church and contributes of his substance to the support of that denomination. He has always been an industrious and hard working citizen and has made his way unaided from the bottom of the ladder. Whatever success he now enjoys he can attribute to those sterling qualities of head and

heart which are always the concomitants of success. He has managed his business affairs in such a way that he has won the hearty approbation of all the citizens of his community, and always takes a stand on the right side of every public question and every movement which seeks to better his community's welfare finds in him a sympathetic helper.

William J. McElhiney, the brother of the subject of this sketch, was born in April, 1866, in Donegal county, Ireland, and came to this country with his parents when he was about one year old. He received his early education in the district schools of this county. He has always exercised those admirable qualities which characterized his brother and the success which he has attained is the natural result of persistent effort backed by these qualities.

William McElhiney was married November 7, 1889, to Elissa M. Greek, the daughter of Joseph and Berilla (Mills) Greek, the father a native of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, where his birth occurred October 7, 1822. At an early age he accompanied his parents to Indiana, coming down on a flat boat to Evansville on the Ohio river. Joseph Greek's father was a carpenter by trade, which occupation he followed until his death in 1835 at the age of forty years, his widow, Catherine (Sellers) Greek, surviving him many years, her death occurring in 1875, at the advanced age of eighty years. In his early life Joseph Greek was employed in various ways until he finally secured a permanent position in a brick yard, where he remained for several years. Mr. Greek was married to Berilla Mills on March 4, 1848, and this marriage was blessed with the following children: Mrs. Ellen Seals, deceased April 11, 1873; A. T., deceased October, 1908; Mrs. M. T. Paul; Samuel M., deceased; George W., deceased; John H., who lives in California; Mrs. Alice M. Brown; A. L., deceased; Mrs. Hattie L. McCormick, who lives in Gibson county; Mrs. Rhoda McElhiney, the wife of Thomas J. McElhiney, who is represented elsewhere in this work, and Mrs. Elissa McElhiney, the wife of William McElhiney.

To Mr. and Mrs. William McElhiney have been born eight children: Moses M., born November 25, 1890, who graduated from the common schools of Gibson county March 29, 1907, from the Francisco high school March 31, 1911, and will graduate from Valparaiso University in 1914. He taught school one winter in Center township; Rhoda A., born July 29, 1892, is still at home; Margaret F., born January 7, 1896, died November 5, 1897; William A., born November 8, 1898; Rosie A., born January 9, 1901; Joseph H., born October 6, 1902; Rachel H., born December 28, 1905, and Mary B., born February 5, 1908.

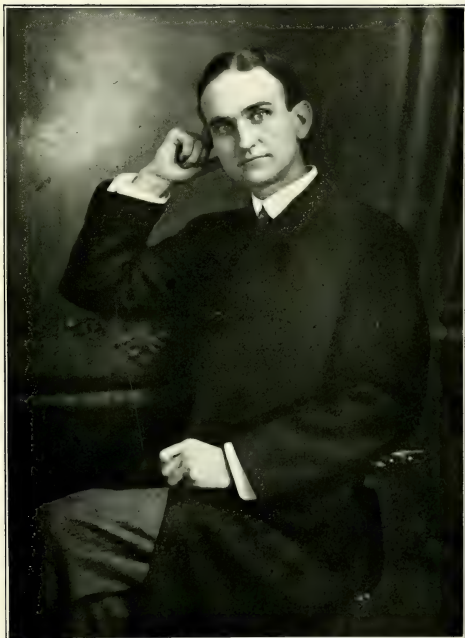
William J. McEllhiney has by his industry acquired a fine farm of one hundred and twenty-six acres of land in this county. This has been accomplished only by steady persistence and untiring effort and the application of upright principles in all of his financial transactions. He carries on a system of diversified farming and is recognized as one of the most progressive farmers of his township. He and the members of his family are attendants of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, and are very actively interested in all the organizations of the church. He has always been a staunch Prohibitionist and ever faithful to uphold the teachings of that party. Since his party has never been in power he has never held any public office, although he is deeply interested in all the great political questions of the day. Mr. McEllhiney is a fine type of the man who makes his way unaided and while he has been primarily attending to his own agricultural interests he has not neglected that larger life, which tends to the upbuilding of the community in which he lives. He has always been a man on whom his neighbors could depend in every respect. He has that respect for law and order which characterizes a good citizen and is ready at all times to uplift humanity along civic and social lines.

The McEllhiney brothers are respected throughout the length and breadth of Gibson county and their friends and acquaintances honor and esteem them for the good work which they have done in their respective communities.

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#### WILLIAM PRENTICE DEARING.

The life of the scholarly or professional man seldom exhibits any of those striking incidents that seize upon public feeling and attract attention to himself. His character is generally made up of the aggregate qualities and qualifications he may possess, as these may be elicited by the exercise of the duties of his vocation or the particular profession to which he may belong. But when such a man has so impressed his individuality upon his fellow men as to gain their confidence, and through that confidence be retained in important positions, he becomes a conspicuous figure in the body politic of the community. The subject of this review is one of the scholarly men of his county, who, not content to hide his talents amid life's sequestered ways, by the force of will and a laudable ambition forged to the front in an exacting and responsible calling and earned an honorable reputation in one of the most important



WILLIAM P. DEARING.



branches of public service. A well educated, symmetrically developed man, his work as an educator has for many years been of such a high standard of excellence that his position in the front rank of his profession has long been conceded. Keeping abreast of the times in advanced educational methods, and possessing a broad and comprehensive knowledge, he is, because of his high attainments, well rounded character and large influence, eminently entitled to representation in the annals of his county.

William Prentice Dearing, the president of Oakland City College, with which institution he has been connected for many years, is a native son of the Hoosier state, having been born in Pike county on September 30, 1874, and is a son of J. B. T. and Betty A. (Selby) Dearing, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Pike county, Indiana. **These parents are both living** and reside on a farm five miles south of Petersburg, Pike county. William P. Dearing received his elementary education in the public schools of Pike county and in the Oakland City high school, where he was graduated in 1890. He then entered Oakland City College, from which he was the first graduate in the classical course in 1895. He was then a student in the University of Chicago for a time and at the age of twenty years became dean of the faculty of Oakland City College. He served eight years in that capacity, and in 1903, at the age of twenty-eight years, became the president of the college and has been retained continuously in this position until the present time. It is a notable fact that Professor Dearing was born, educated, married and began his life work within a radius of five miles. While endowed naturally for the career to which he has devoted himself, Mr. Dearing supplemented his natural equipment with an enthusiasm for his profession and a close and critical study of advanced educational methods. He keeps in close personal touch with the student body, and as instructor or adviser he holds the interest of those under him, and many of the students who have come forth from Oakland City College have received from him their greatest inspiration for their life work. He is widely and favorably known as a lecturer before teachers' institutes and associations, as well as on the Chautauqua platform. He is naturally eloquent, his marvelous descriptions and vivid word pictures holding his audiences and stamping him as a public speaker of unusual attainment. Among the special lectures which President Dearing has delivered on different occasions throughout the Middle West, are the following: "The Heritage of the American Youth," "The Battle with the Beast," "If I Were You," "The Educated Man and His Mission," "Jack and the Bean Stalk," "The Other Fellow," "The Old

and the New," "The Double Role," "An Hour With Poe," "The Dignity of Youth," "A Theology For the Business Man," "The Teacher's Creed," "Big Business," and "The Drama of Esther." A modern, practical thinker and an eloquent and forceful speaker, Doctor Dearing's lectures have given universal satisfaction wherever he has spoken.

On January 1, 1896, William P. Dearing was married to May Cockrum, the eldest daughter of Col. W. M. and Lucrecia Cockrum of Oakland City. To this union have been born two children, Mazo and William Cockrum.

Fraternally, William P. Dearing is an appreciative member of the Knights of Pythias, while religiously, he is a member of the General Baptist church, of which he is an ordained minister and in the various activities of which society he is greatly interested. Although a quiet and unassuming man, he has contributed much to the material and civic advancement of this community, adding to admirable qualities of head and heart, a straightforward and upright character in his daily life, that has won for him the esteem and confidence of all the circles in which he has moved. His personal relations with his fellow man have ever been mutually pleasant and agreeable, and he is highly regarded by all, being easily approached, obliging and straightforward in all the relations of life.

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#### FRED C. KUESTER.

The farming profession has been revolutionized within the last fifty years and the farmer of today knows few of the disadvantages which surrounded the pioneer farmers of this state. Scores of inventions have been put on the market which enable the farmer to lead a life of ease as compared to the arduous labors which his father had to undergo. The result is that an ever increasing number of our best young men are remaining on the farm in preference to trying their fortunes in the city. The farmer is certainly the most independent man of the country and all other professions must bow to him. Indiana is known throughout the length and breadth of this country as one of the best agricultural states of the Union, and Gibson county ranks with the best farming sections of the state. Gibson county farmers are not to be excelled by any other county in the state and among its many excellent farmers no one occupies a more prominent place than the subject of this review.

Fred C. Kuester, the son of John and Katherine (Swartz) Kuester, was



born October 20, 1859, in Vanderburg county, Indiana, near Evansville. Both of his parents were of German extraction. His father came to this country in 1854, settling near Evansville, on a farm and there lived for fourteen years, after which he engaged in the grocery business in Evansville, at the corner of Sixth and Main streets until his death.

Fred C. Kuester, the subject of this sketch, received his early education in the schools of Evansville, and assisted his father in the grocery store until the time of his father's death. He then went on a farm and supported his mother and the rest of the family for several years by his work. At the age of twenty-one he was married to Barbara Apple, of Posey county, Indiana, and to this union were born three children: William, who lives with his father on the farm; Mrs. Katherine Rosemeyer, of Center township; one child died in infancy. After the death of his first wife, he was again married on April 15, 1891, to Matilda Garbers, the daughter of John and Lena (Labra) Garbers. Mrs. Kuester's father was a native of Germany, while her mother was born in Indiana. To Mr. Kuester's second marriage were born six children, five of whom are living: Myrtle, Laura, John, Hulda, Edward and one child who died in infancy.

Fred C. Kuester lived on a rented farm for five years after his first marriage and then came to Gibson county, September 21, 1888, and bought forty acres of land from John Auburn, and by unflagging industry and strict attention to his agricultural interests, he gradually increased his land holdings until he is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of as fine land as can be found in the township. It is interesting to note that the first house on his farm in Gibson county was a log structure, which he built himself. However, with his good wife and his children, he started to build up his farm and not many years rolled around before he was able to put up a substantial home and other good farm buildings. His farm is now under a high state of cultivation and is well equipped with all modern improvements and shows what can be accomplished when a goal is set and the proper energy applied.

Although Mr. Kuester has been a life-long Democrat, he has never asked for office at the hands of his party. He has been content to devote all of his time and ability to his agricultural interests. However, he has kept pace with the various movements of his party and takes an active interest in its deliberations. Religiously, he is affiliated with the German Snake Run church and helps in the various activities of that denomination. He is a member of the lodge of Eagles at Princeton.

Mr. Kuester is a good type of the American citizen who starts out with practically nothing and by the sweat of his brow has acquired for himself a comfortable home and laid by a sufficiency of this world's goods to insure his comfort in his old age. Too much credit cannot be given to the man who is thrown upon his own resources at an early age and by his own efforts is enabled to rear a family and supply them with all the comforts of modern civilization. This is what Mr. Kuester has done and it is to his credit that in so doing he has not neglected the moral and civic welfare of his community. Mr. Kuester is a genial and unassuming gentleman who has so conducted his affairs in the township as to win the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens. His success has not been attained by any sudden stroke of fortune, but rather by unceasing industry and attention to his chosen vocation. Such men are a credit to any community, and were there more such men this country would be far better off. It is a pleasure to set forth in this brief sketch the life and character of such a man. He can pass on to his children and to his children's children the record of a life well spent.

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### THOMAS J. McELLINEY.

There are no more highly esteemed citizens of Gibson county than the McElhiney brothers. Born of sturdy Irish parents, they have inherited through generations of hardy ancestors all of those excellent qualities which belong to the people of Ireland. With few opportunities except what their own efforts were capable of mastering and with many difficulties to overcome, they have made an exceptional success in life, and the communities in which they live are proud to number them among their residents. All of them are progressive and enterprising and persevering and these qualities are sure to bring success if faithfully directed. They are men of strong and noble character and have worked with zeal during their residence in this community for the moral, religious and social welfare of the locality.

Thomas J. McElhiney, the second of the three brothers living in this county, was born March 15, 1862, in Ireland. His parents were John and Mary (Curscadin) McElhiney, both of whom were natives of Ireland. The family history of the McElhineys is specifically set forth in sketch of Cuna-cum McElhiney elsewhere in this volume.

Thomas J. McElhiney came with his parents to America when he was four years of age and settled with them in Gibson county, Indiana. Here he

received his elementary education, but owing to the fact that it was necessary for him to start out early in life to earn a livelihood, his education was limited, although he has not let that hinder him in any way, but has kept himself well informed upon all the current topics of the day by reading the newspapers and magazines.

Thomas J. McElhiney was married on July 22, 1886, to Rhoda Greek, the daughter of Joseph and Berilla (Mills) Greek. He was born in Pennsylvania and his wife in Center township in this county. Joseph Greek was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, in 1822. His parents moved to Indiana early in his life, and he worked at various occupations and upon reaching the age of twenty-six he was married to Berilla Mills on March 14, 1848. They reared a large family of children to honored and respected manhood and womanhood and this family history is specifically referred to elsewhere in this volume in the sketch of Cunacum McElhiney.

To Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. McElhiney have been born two children, Ruth and Robert R. Ruth, born November 13, 1887, is the wife of David Dunning, a farmer of this county. Mr. and Mrs. Dunning have three children: Elsie, Royal and Lela M. Robert R., born August 14, 1889, is still at home with his parents. Mr. McElhiney purchased the farm on which he now lives, a tract comprising seventy-one acres, going into debt for the whole amount of the purchase price. Within five years, however, he had by hard work and strict application to business, succeeded in paying off the total indebtedness incurred by this purchase. Since then he has bought sixty-one acres more land and has paid for all of this from the products of the farm. In addition to his agricultural interests, he is financially interested in the Francisco Telephone Exchange, of which he is the president and manager. In this he has shown excellent business judgment and administrative ability and the service given by this telephone company has increased in value since he took charge of the work.

Politically, Mr. McElhiney is a Progressive and sees in that party a chance to bring about certain reforms which will be of benefit to the nation in general. In his religious affiliations he is found in the Methodist Episcopal church, where he takes an active interest in the various departments of the work of that denomination.

Mr. McElhiney, because of his many excellent personal qualities and splendid influence which his life has shed over the locality in which he has lived, is a man who has won a host of friends throughout the township. His high moral character and persistent industry have brought him a meed of fame which he rightly deserves.

## WALTER T. GALLIGAN.

The most elaborate history is necessarily an abridgment, the historian being compelled to select his facts and material from a multitude of details. In every life of honor and usefulness there is no dearth of incident and yet in summing up the career of any man the writer needs touch only the salient points which give the keynote of the character, but eliminating much that is superfluous. Thus in giving the life record of Walter T. Galligan, sufficient will be said to show that he is one of the enterprising, influential and progressive citizens of Gibson county, Indiana.

Walter T. Galligan, junior member of the firm of Kell & Galligan, merchants at Oakland City, is a native son of the old Hoosier state, having been born in Terre Haute, Vigo county, on July 13, 1869. His parents were Michael and Mary (Troutman) Galligan, the father a native of Ohio, and the mother of Kentucky. Michael Galligan, who was a railroad engineer by vocation, came to Oakland City in the employ of the Southern railroad, with which company he was connected for many years, proving one of the most faithful and trusted employes. He is now retired from active work and lives in Louisville, Kentucky. After the death of his first wife, he married Mollie Wilson. The subject of this sketch was the only child by his first union.

Walter T. Galligan received his education in the public schools of Oakland City and Louisville, Kentucky, and in 1888 he became a salesman in the store of John D. Kell & Company at Oakland City, the company being Mrs. Nannie Duncan, of Princeton. In 1890 Mr. Galligan purchased Mrs. Duncan's interest in the business, since which time the firm name has been Kell & Galligan, the store being known as the "Why" store. A large and complete stock of clothing, shoes and general furnishings for men are carried in this store. Three years ago they established another department under the name of the "When" store, containing a complete stock of dry goods. The "When" is a stock company, of which Mr. Galligan is the president, Mr. Kell, vice-president, and C. J. Powers, secretary and treasurer. The business has been very successful, and is now numbered among the leading commercial houses of this locality. Mr. Galligan has been very successful in everything to which he has applied himself, and is vice-president of the Creek & Heldt Hardware Company, a corporation at Oakland City, and a director in the Columbia State Bank, one of the successful and influential financial concerns of Gibson county. A man of earnest purpose and upright

life, he has so ordered his actions as to win and retain the confidence and esteem of the entire community, and he is rightfully numbered among the representative men of Gibson county.

Mr. Galligan was married to Essie M. Bucklin, of Princeton, the daughter of T. M. and Ann Bucklin, and to them have been born two daughters, Helen and Margaret.

Religiously, Mr. Galligan is a member of the Presbyterian church, while fraternally, he is a member of the Masonic order, in which he has taken the degrees of the York Rite, holding membership in the commandery of Knights Templar at Princeton, and in Hadji Temple, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, at Evansville. He is a self-made man and has made his way in life unaided. Personally, he is a man of pleasing address, obliging, genial, a good mixer, makes and retains friends without effort, and he is in every way worthy of the high esteem in which he is universally held.

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#### MOSES McELLINEY.

No more substantial and moral citizens have ever come to this country from foreign lands than the sons of Ireland and wherever they have settled they have become honored and respected citizens. As a race they are characterized by industry and a patience which overcomes all obstacles and thus insures them success in whatever undertaking they choose to follow. Gibson county has been honored by having several of the sons of the Emerald Isle as citizens, but no family of Irish descent has ever occupied a more prominent place in the material development of the county than has the McElhiney family.

Moses McElhiney, the youngest child of John and Mary J. (Curscadin) McElhiney, was born in Ireland February 15, 1861. His parents were born, reared, married and spent several years of their married life in their native land. Moses was given his elementary schooling in the sod schoolhouses of Ireland, and his subsequent education has been gathered in the wide school of observation and experience, and his success of today is convincing proof that he has been an apt student. When Moses was a young boy he came with his parents to the United States and settled in Princeton, Indiana. John McElhiney was a millwright in Ireland and when he came to Gibson county he took up the same trade. For some years he was also a watchman at the

engine house in Princeton, and a more efficient and faithful employee the railroad company never had. Some years before his death he engaged in farming and was engaged in this occupation at the time of his death. To Mr. and Mrs. John McEllhiney were born nine children, among whom were Moses, Cunacum and William J., three brothers who are now living in Gibson county, Indiana.

Moses McEllhiney is a fine example of the truly self-made man, for he has won his way through his own unaided efforts. He received a very meager education in Ireland and as soon as he came to this country he started out to help make a living for the family, and since that time has been a man who has literally earned his bread by the sweat of his brow. His first work in this country was in a saw mill with his brother, where he worked about two weeks, and received one hundred pounds of flour for his labor. His father then bought for him a horse and wagon and he started into the dray business in Princeton, his first job being the delivering of a sack of flour to John Oswald, for which he received five cents. His second and his next call was for J. J. Hartman, for whom he hauled some hardware from the depot for fifteen cents, the total for his first day's work being twenty cents. With this inauspicious beginning he laid the foundation for his future success, and at the end of two years he sold his draying outfit and went on a farm where he worked for his father for about fifteen years. He then went to Colorado, where he became the foreman of a cattle ranch and remained in that state for five years, at the expiration of which time he returned to Gibson county, where he and his brother purchased eighty acres of land. After his marriage in 1898, he rented the farm of Harvey Greer and lived on this place for eleven years, when he purchased his father-in-law's farm of twenty-six and one-half acres. He proceeded to build a new home on this farm, which is one of the handsomest country homes in the county. He also has good out-buildings of all kinds, and is now in a fair way to become a landowner of some prominence. Shortly after building his new house, he bought sixty acres of land from Alexander Mooney, and to his rapidly growing farm he later added twenty-three acres of land which he bought from his brother, Robert, and twenty acres of his brother Cunacum's farm, making him a total at the present time of one hundred and thirty-five acres of good farming land. As a day laborer he never made more than twenty-seven dollars a month, and he can now look back with some satisfaction on a career which has been marked by good, honest hard toil.

Moses McEllhiney was married to Carrie Rinehart, September 7, 1898,

the daughter of Frank and Lena Waltz, he a native of Gibson county, while his wife was born in Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Rinehart were the parents of six children: Carrie; John, deceased; Mrs. Sophronia Weidenbender, who lives in Princeton, Indiana; Mary, at home; Louis, of Bloomington, Illinois; and Daniel, who lives in Princeton. To Mr. and Mrs. McElhiney have been born six children: John, born November 9, 1899; Henry, born June 10, 1902; Venito, born November 2, 1904; Daniel, born May 4, 1907; Mary, born August 24, 1909, and Mabel, born October 28, 1911, who lived only two weeks.

Mr. McElhiney has been a strong Democrat in his political views, but has never taken an active part in politics. Much of his time has been spent outside of the state, and while he was working in Indiana, he had neither the time nor the means to indulge in the game of politics. He and the members of his family are devout adherents of the Catholic church and contribute liberally of their substance to this denomination. Mr. McElhiney's career abounds in honest work, persistent effort and a perseverance which has never forsaken him during all the years of his endeavor. His life and labors are worthy of emulation and show what can be accomplished by a man who starts out with the intention of making an honest living. He is rearing his family to lives of usefulness and intends to give them that education which will fit them for the affairs of life. He is highly respected and honored by all who know him.

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#### FELIX N. WESTFALL.

All honor is due the gallant veterans who are still living today. They are fast answering the last roll call, and within a few years they will all have passed away, leaving nothing but the memory of an heroic life spent for the love of their country. When the news of the fall of Fort Sumter was flashed across the country the hearts of the North were fired by patriotism which augured well for the nation. No Northern state had a more patriotic governor than Indiana, and had every governor done as much to help President Lincoln as did Governor Morton the war would not have lasted as long as it did. No other state furnished as many men in proportion to its population as did Indiana; no other troops were sent into the field as well equipped and as well drilled as were the Indiana soldiers. More than two hundred thousand men enlisted from the state of Indiana alone, and in every engagement in which they participated they were never found lacking in that fine enthusi-



asm which is conducive to victory. Whether upon the battle field or in the camp, whether in the prison pen of the South, they were always found faithful and loyal to the country which was supporting them. Amid the sound of shrieking shell they never faltered, but obeyed every command of their superior officers. Often wounded, they left the hospital and fought on until the end. Thousands who were made prisoners rejoined their companies and were often captured again, but it is to their credit that they never wavered; they never showed the white feather. No county in the state furnished braver or better men than did Gibson county, and of the thousands of men who went from this county, the seventeen-year-old youth whose name heads this sketch was fired by as pure a patriotism as was shown by any of the recruits who went to the front.

Felix N. Westfall, a Civil war veteran and prominent citizen of this county, was born September 18, 1844, in Owensville, this county. His parents were Calvin and Juliana (Cormick) Westfall, the father born in Harrison county, Indiana, and the mother a native of Gibson county. Calvin Westfall came to Gibson county when he was about eight years of age with his parents and lived on his father's farm until he was about twenty-two years of age. He received his elementary education in Harrison and Gibson county schools and as a youth enjoyed all those advantages which fall to the lot of the ordinary country lad. After his marriage he bought a farm in this county, which he operated and improved, and where he lived for the remainder of his life. To him and his wife were born nine children, of whom Felix N. was the fifth in order of birth.

Felix N. Westfall was reared on the paternal farmstead and received his education in the district schools of Gibson county. On August 10, 1862, when he still lacked one month of being eighteen years of age, he enlisted in Company F, Eightieth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served throughout the remainder of the great conflict, being discharged on June 22, 1865, at Salisbury, North Carolina. He left Princeton with his company on the 8th day of September, 1862, and on October 8th of the same year he engaged in his first battle in Kentucky. Here he was severely wounded, but quickly recovering, he again joined his company. The corps to which his company was attached followed the Confederates to Danville, Kentucky, where they (the Confederates) were going to encamp for the winter. On this forced march he was disabled and sent to the hospital, where he remained from the 27th of November, 1862, until March 20, 1863, when he was again able to rejoin his regiment. Within a short time he was again disabled and



was this time sent to Louisville, Kentucky, to recuperate. As soon as he was discharged from the hospital, he rejoined his regiment at Lebanon, Kentucky, and was then in active service until the day on which he was mustered out. We cannot give too much credit to those gallant boys in blue who followed wherever their commander led them, who never questioned an order, but fought through the bloodiest of conflicts without ever flinching.

Immediately after being mustered out of the service Mr. Westfall returned to Center township, Gibson county, and started to work on the farm. On December 13, 1867, he was united in marriage to Rosalie Dougherty, the daughter of Frank and Jane (Montgomery) Dougherty, and to this union there were born eight children: William, deceased, December 26, 1912; Melissa Edith, who died in infancy; Hiram T., who lives in Oregon; Marion O., who lives in Nebraska; Mamie A., who died in infancy; Mrs. Mary J. Combs, of Princeton, Indiana; Mrs. Julia A. Hyslop, whose husband is a farmer in Center township, and Orville, who died in infancy.

At the time of his marriage Mr. Westfall bought a farm of eighty acres in Center township, this county, and continued to operate this tract until a few years ago when he moved to the town of Francisco. As a farmer he was very successful in raising all the crops common to this section. He gradually improved his farm and kept it well stocked with the latest farming machinery, thereby materially increasing the value of his farm. He has been a life-long Republican in politics, but has been satisfied to devote all of his time and attention to his agricultural interests and for this reason has not taken a very active part in politics. However, he keeps himself well informed on all the public questions of the day and can discuss them intelligently. He and his family are faithful and earnest members of the General Baptist church, and have always taken a prominent part in the activities of this denomination. Mr. Westfall is a prominent member of the Grand Army of the Republic post at Princeton, and takes a great deal of pleasure in being present at the meetings of Archer Post.

Mr. Westfall can look back over a life well spent. As a soldier he performed his every duty with faithfulness and courage, and as a private citizen he has never fallen short of the dignity of true manhood. In all his business transactions he has so conducted his life that he has won the unqualified approbation of all of his fellow citizens, so that when he answers the final roll call there will be no one but what can say "His life was gentle and the elements so mixed in him that the whole world might stand up and say, he was a man."

## JOHN N. McKEDY.

There is no occupation which gives a man the independence of life, which brings him closer to nature than does farming. In pioneer times farming was very much of a drudgery, but with all the modern improvements, the farmer is relieved of much of the hard work which was the portion of his forefathers. Then, too, farming has risen in dignity, until now it is often referred to as a profession rather than as an occupation. Fifty years ago the science of agriculture was in its mere infancy, and to think that a man had to take a course in college in order to be a successful farmer would have been laughed at, but today our colleges are teaching agriculture as a science and are turning out thousands of young men who are well trained in the scientific methods of farming. Another advantage which the present day farmer commands which was totally unknown to his pioneer forefathers, is the matter of transportation. Good roads are threading every portion of our state today and the interurban and automobile keep the farmer in close touch not only with his neighbors, but with the life in the city as well. Gibson is one of the oldest counties in the state and consequently has many fine farms and good farmers within its borders. Among the enterprising and progressive farmers of the county, there is no one who stands in higher esteem than does the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this sketch.

John N. McKedy was born April 11, 1850, in Owensville, Indiana, the son of Thomas H. and Maria (Teal) McKedy, both natives of this county. They were the parents of seven children, the subject being the second child in order of birth. Thomas H. McKedy located in Center township on the farm where his son, John N., is now living. He cleared this land, drained and fenced it and put up a log cabin in the early days, where he and his good wife started to housekeeping.

John N. McKedy was reared on the home farm and received his early education in the district schools of his neighborhood and followed this by a course in the Oakland City College. That he took advantage of his educational opportunities is shown by the fact that he took the state teachers' examination and secured a license to teach school in his county. Although he only taught one term of school he made a good record as a teacher that year and the teaching profession lost a good instructor when he decided to abandon teaching and engage in farming.

John N. McKedy was united in marriage on March 10, 1877, to Mary Madden, the daughter of Wright and Susan J. (Hollingsworth) Madden,

both natives of the Hoosier state. To Mr. and Mrs. McKedy have been born two children, Homer V., who is now the chief clerk in the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad at New Haven, Connecticut, and Mrs. Mary May Lagier, whose husband is a farmer in Center township; she has two children, May L., born April 4, 1909, and Madge, born June 23, 1912. The wife and mother died December 31, 1897.

Mr. McKedy is the owner of a finely improved farm of eighty-five acres, besides other land holdings in Center township. He has retired from active farm life and rents his farms out to tenants. As a farmer he was successful and was counted as one of the most progressive farmers of his community at the time when he retired from active labors on the farm. Politically, he is a firm adherent and believer in the principles of the Prohibitionist party, and has taken a very active interest in the deliberations of that party. He is a member of the Presbyterian church, and has always been prominent in the activities of that denomination. Mr. McKedy is a man who is well informed on all public questions of the day and keeps apace with the progress of civilization. He does a great amount of reading and takes pleasure in talking over the problems of the day with his friends. He is a genial, unassuming man whom it is a pleasure to meet, and all of his neighbors speak in the highest terms of his genial companionship. While he has been looking out for his material advancement, he has not neglected those higher interests which go out after the welfare of his community, and accordingly he is in hearty sympathy with all movements looking toward the betterment of the community of which he is a resident.

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### JOHN ARBUTHNOT.

In the history of Gibson county, as applying to the agricultural interests, the name of John Arbuthnot occupies a conspicuous place, for through a number of years he has been one of the representative farmers of Center township, progressive, enterprising and persevering. Such qualities always bring success, sooner or later, and to Mr. Arbuthnot they have brought a satisfactory reward for his well-directed effort, and while he has benefited himself and community in a material way, he has also been an influential factor in the educational, political, and moral uplift of the community favored by his residence.

John Arbuthnot, the son of Ulysses and Lurana (Davis) Arbuthnot,

was born June 10, 1857, at Linnville, Indiana. His father came to Gibson county in 1867 and settled on a farm about three miles south of Princeton. He was a saddlemaker by trade and later followed farming until his death in July, 1893. His widow is still living with her son John at the advanced age of eighty-two. She is still very active for a woman of her age. To Mr. and Mrs. Ulysses Arbuthnot were born four children: Nancy J., John, Martha (deceased) and Elizabeth (deceased).

John Arbuthnot received his elementary education in the district schools of Gibson county, and in 1892 began to learn the trade of a miller. He followed this occupation for eleven years, but after his marriage he decided to engage in farming. Accordingly he moved to Tennessee and operated a farm in that state for three years. Not liking to remain in that state, however, he sold his farm and returned to Gibson county, Patoka township, Indiana, where he purchased a farm near Poseyville. He improved this farm and conducted it very successfully for a number of years, but finding a farm in Center township which suited him better, he sold his other farm and bought the one in Center township which he owns today. On this farm of one hundred and forty-two acres he carries on a diversified system of farming and also raises stock which has proved to be very remunerative. He is a progressive and scientific farmer who is able to get the best results from the soil.

He was married on February 10, 1887, to Harriet E. Chism, the daughter of William and Mary Fitzgerald Chism. His wife's parents were both born in Gibson county, his wife being born in the county on January 2, 1865. Mr. and Mrs. Arbuthnot are the parents of five children: Mrs. Lillian M. Harbison (born November 21, 1887), whose husband is a teacher in Gibson county, at Francisco; Maud E. (born in Tennessee, April 12, 1890); Charles U. (born January 20, 1893), who is now living in the town of Francisco, Indiana; and two sons who are still under the parental roof—William C. born June 9, 1896) and Paul E. (born June 4, 1900).

Mr. Arbuthnot has been a Democrat all his life, and keeps well informed on the political questions of the day. He has not been a seeker after political honors, preferring rather to devote all of his energies to his agricultural interests. He and his family are loyal members of the General Baptist church and are interested in the various activities of that denomination.

Mr. Arbuthnot has won his success only by hard and unceasing labor and deserves an honorable place among the representative farmers of his

county. He has always taken a part in all movements which sought to ameliorate the moral and social conditions of his community, and in so doing has won the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens.

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### C. A. SHUBART.

The following is a sketch of a plain, honest man of affairs, who by correct methods and a strict regard for the interests of his patrons has made his influence felt in Princeton and won for himself distinctive prestige in the professional circles of that city. He is one of those whose integrity and strength of character must force them into an admirable notoriety which their modesty never seeks, who command the respect of their contemporaries and their posterity and leave the impress of their individuality deeply stamped upon the community.

C. A. Shubart, one of the most prominent photographers of this section of the state, was born October 5, 1869, in Bethel, Pennsylvania. His parents, Augustus and Elizabeth (Welborn) Shubart, were also natives of the Keystone state and lived their whole life in the city of Bethel. Augustus Shubart was a farmer and successful business man in Bethel during his whole career. He and his wife reared a large family of six children: Henrietta; Anna, deceased; Katherine, deceased; Henry, deceased; Aden, deceased; and C. A., the immediate subject of this sketch.

C. A. Shubart received his education in the schools of his native city and upon reaching the years of young manhood he entered the service of a photographer at Canton, Ohio, in order to learn the trade. He remained here for about ten years, when he removed to Marion, Indiana, where he remained a short time. Feeling that there was a good opening in Princeton for a photographer he opened up an establishment in that place in 1898 and has been successful from the first. A destructive fire which occurred on December 23, 1912, destroyed twenty thousand negatives and all of his photographic equipment as well. However, with true determination to win and confidence in his ability to succeed he immediately re-established himself and is now rapidly winning back enough to recoup himself for his heavy losses by this fire. He is recognized as a man of artistic tastes and one who can satisfy the most fastidious subject, while his courteous manner and affable personality have been the means of attracting to him an ever

increasing number of customers. He made the pictures and views which are used in this volume.

Mr. Shubart was married on November 30, 1896, to Minnie Reese, the daughter of Brubaker and Martha (Sheckler) Reese. He met his wife while working in Canton, Ohio, and they were married in that city. Fraternally, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Although he is a Republican in politics, he has never taken an active part in political affairs and public offices have had no attraction for him. Mr. Shubart is a man who has the good name of the community at heart and his is the life of a man who gives character and stability to the body politic.

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### JOSEPH K. McGARY.

Among the strong and influential citizens of Gibson county, the records of whose lives have become an essential part of the history of this section, the gentleman whose name appears above occupies a prominent place and for years he has exerted a beneficial influence in the locality where he resides. His chief characteristics are keenness of perception, a tireless energy, honesty of purpose and motive, and every-day common sense, which have enabled him not only to advance his own interests, but also largely contribute to the moral and material advancement of the community.

Joseph K. McGary was born September 28, 1844, on a farm in Montgomery township, Gibson county, and is a son of Harrison D. and Nancy (Pritchard) McGary, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of North Carolina. Harrison D. McGary, who had come to Gibson county in early manhood, was a soldier in the war of 1812. He was a farmer by vocation, and lived in Montgomery township until his death, which occurred in 1845, his widow dying some years later. The paternal grandfather, Hugh McGary, who was a native of Kentucky, took part in the early Indian wars with Daniel Boone, and became one of the first settlers of Evansville, having come up the Ohio river in a boat and tying it to an elm tree which died only a few years ago; another tree was planted on the spot with considerable ceremony, the subject of this sketch being present on that occasion. The subject of this sketch is one of three children, the others being William H., who was killed in the battle of Stone's River on January 31, 1862, and Hugh D., who lives at Fort



MR. AND MRS. JOSEPH K. MCGARY.





Branch, but who is engaged in business in Princeton in partnership with the subject. Mr. McGary received his education in the public schools of his home community, residing on the paternal farmstead until 1885, when he removed to Princeton, where he has since resided. He was very successful in the operation of the farm, and also engaged in a number of other commercial enterprises, having been treasurer of the sheet metal works for seven years, or from the time the company was organized until it sold out. He is now engaged in the loan business, in partnership with his brother Hugh, and they are numbered among the successful and enterprising business men of Princeton.

During the Civil war, Mr. McGary took an active part in his country's defense, enlisting in March, 1864, in Company E, Forty-second Volunteer Infantry, being the youngest of three brothers who took part in that conflict. He participated in all of the battles from Chattanooga down to Savannah, and was with Sherman on his historic march to the sea, proving a valuable and faithful soldier, according to the testimony of his comrades. He is now and has been for a number of years an active member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and he, in association with D. W. Smith, got up the petition and started the effort for the erection of the soldiers' monument in Princeton, and probably more to Mr. McGary than anyone else is due the credit for the success of this project, as Mr. Smith died soon after the petition was started and the burden of the work fell upon Mr. McGary.

Mr. McGary has been twice married, first, in September, 1872, to Rebecca Weed, to which union no children were born. Mrs. McGary died in 1901, having been an invalid for many years, and in June, 1904, Mr. McGary married Mrs. Matilda Degraff, whose maiden name was Tribble. She was born and reared in Johnson township, Gibson county, and is a lady of many excellent qualities of head and heart, who has endeared herself to all who knew her.

Politically, Mr. McGary is a staunch supporter of the Republican party, while religiously he is an earnest and active member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In local civic affairs he has long taken a deep interest, having served efficiently as a member of the city council for six years, and giving his support to all movements for the betterment of the public welfare. Although his life has been a busy one, his every-day affairs making heavy demands upon his time, he has never shrunk from his duties as a citizen and his obligation to his church has never been neglected. He is, first of all, distinctively a man of the people, whose interests he has at heart and for whom he would not hesitate

to make any reasonable sacrifice. Genial and unassuming in his relations with his fellows, he has a wide acquaintance, among whom are many warm and loyal personal friends.

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### HENRY WILDEMAN.

Among the prominent young farmers of Center township, Gibson county, Indiana, no one occupies a more prominent place than does the subject of this review. He comes from highly honored German parentage and has a heritage of all those sterling qualities which characterize the German emigrants who came to this country early in its history. He takes a very active part in all the social, material and intellectual interests of his community and is altogether one of those citizens whom any county would be proud to possess. With his good common sense, strict integrity and steady persistence he has won a name for himself early in life and is well liked by all with whom he has come in contact.

Henry Wildeman, the son of Charles and Sally (Aker) Wildeman, was born in Posey county, Indiana, November 9, 1870. Henry Wildeman, Sr., the father of Charles, was a very highly educated man and school teacher in Germany. He spoke German and French. He brought his family to this country in 1849 and settled in Posey county, Indiana, where he remained the rest of his life on a farm. He directed the farm work but was never actively engaged. Charles Wildeman was born in Germany in 1835, while his wife, Sally Aker, was a native of Posey county, Indiana. In 1882, the family moved to Gibson county and settled on the farm where Henry now lives. Charles Wildeman died on July 27, 1909, his wife having passed away many years previous, February 23, 1881. To Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wildeman were born twelve children: Mrs. Carrie Whitman; Mrs. Katie Gerhart, deceased; Andrew, who is represented elsewhere in this work; Mrs. Lizzie Weaver; Mrs. Rosie Stateman; Charles, who is also represented elsewhere in this work; Henry, the immediate subject of this sketch; Joseph; Frank, a farmer of Center township in this county; Mrs. Maggie Smith and Sallie, who died in infancy.

Henry Wildeman received his common school education in the district schools of his neighborhood and worked on his father's farm until he was twenty-five years of age; then he went west and followed teaming for two years, at the expiration of which time he returned to Gibson county, where

he has since resided. He is the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and forty-five acres in this county in Center township, which is well improved and equipped with the latest agricultural machinery. In addition to carrying on a system of diversified farming, he also raises considerable live stock, in which he has been very successful.

Mr. Wildeman was married on May 21, 1902, to Katie Deters, the daughter of Barney and Mary Deters, and to this union there have been born three children: Edgar, born January 22, 1904; Roy, born October 18, 1908; Albert, born October 6, 1911. Mr. Wildeman has had success commensurate with his ability and effort and is recognized in the community as a man of more than ordinary ability. In addition to his farming interests, he has stock in the Francisco State Bank, at Francisco, Indiana. Politically, he is a Democrat, but has never been an aspirant for political preferment. He is a member, with his family, of the Catholic church, and contributes liberally of his substance to the support of this denomination and takes an interested part in all the activities of the church. He is one of the most prominent and progressive farmers and business men of this section of the county, and his counsel is frequently sought by his friends. He belongs to that class of men who are pushing forward the wheels of progress and by sheer force of character and persistency he has won his way to a place of influence and prominence in the community where he lives.

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### JOHN H. MILLER.

Success in this life comes to the deserving. It is an axiom demonstrated by all human experience that a man gets out of this life what he puts into it, plus a reasonable interest on the investment. The individual who inherits a large estate and adds nothing to his fortune cannot be called a successful man. He that falls heir to a large fortune and increases its value is successful in proportion to the amount he adds to his possession. But the man who starts in the world unaided and by sheer force of will, controlled by correct principles, forges ahead and at length reaches a position of honor among his fellow citizens achieves success such as representatives of the two former classes can neither understand nor appreciate. To a considerable extent the subject of this sketch is a creditable representative of the class last named, a class which has furnished much of the bone and sinew of the country and added to the stability of our government and its institutions.

John H. Miller, a veteran of the Civil war and a retired lawyer of Princeton, Indiana, was born in Rockport, Indiana, on December 1, 1841. His parents were Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Franklin Miller, his father being born in Virginia. B. F. Miller was reared in Washington, Pennsylvania, and after receiving a common school education started in the manufacture and wholesaling of tobacco, and later went to Covington, Kentucky, where he followed the same business. He was married at Harrodsburg, Kentucky, to Nancy A. Higgins, and in 1832 removed to Newberg, Indiana. After a residence of two years in that city, he went to Rockport, and in 1849 to Gentryville, Indiana, where his death occurred in 1884, at the age of seventy-nine years, while his wife died at the age of eighty-two years. Mr. Miller was a Whig in politics before that party was a part of the Republican party, and from 1856 on until the time of his death, he supported the Republican party. Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Miller reared five children: Jane, deceased; Addie, deceased; Elizabeth, deceased; Benjamin F., who served during the Civil war in Company H, Forty-second Regiment Indiana Volunteers, and was killed at the battle of Stone's River; and John H., the immediate subject of this sketch.

John H. Miller received his common school education in the southern part of Indiana and for a time attended a private school taught by a Mr. Burns, a man of excellent learning for those days. When the Civil war was at its height in December of 1863, Mr. Miller enlisted in Company H, Tenth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Cavalry. He organized the company and was the first lieutenant, being mustered into the service on March 8, 1863. His company saw service in the battles of Decatur, Alabama; Nashville, Tennessee; Mobile; Fort Blakely and Spanish Fort and many other engagements. Since he was a member of the cavalry service he saw a great deal of staff duty. He served until the close of the war and was discharged in the summer of 1865.

Immediately after the close of the war Mr. Miller returned to this state and located in Petersburg, where he read law for a time with Wiley C. Adams, of Jasper, Indiana. In the spring of 1866, he was admitted to the bar and took up the active practice of his profession at Petersburg, with a partner, E. P. Richardson, and continued his practice at this place until 1884, when he located in Princeton and resumed his practice with J. E. McCullough. This firm of McCullough & Miller did a general law business until 1906, when Mr. Miller retired on account of age, and since that time he has looked after his farm interests at Union in Pike county in this state, where he has one of the finest farms in the county. He is a breeder of fine mules, Here-

ford cattle, Poland-China and Red Jersey hogs, and is regarded as one of the most successful stock breeders in this part of the state.

Mr. Miller was married on March 30, 1868, to Mary E. Montgomery, the daughter of Thomas L. and Elizabeth (Edmondson) Montgomery, of Petersburg, Indiana. She died on August 11, 1905. Mr. and Mrs. John H. Miller were the parents of two children, Montgomery L., who died shortly after he was admitted to the bar, and Bessie A., who is still at home. Mr. Miller is a member of the United Presbyterian church of Princeton, taking an interested part in the various activities of this denomination. Fraternally, **he is a member of the Archer Post, Grand Army of the Republic, and takes a lively interest in the affairs of this order.** Like his father before him, he has been a life-long Republican, but has never been a seeker for or held any political office.

As a lawyer Mr. Miller, by a straightforward and honorable course has built up a large and lucrative legal business and financially has been fairly successful. His life affords a splendid example of what an American youth, **plentifully** endowed with good common sense, energy and thrift, can accomplish when accompanied by good moral principles. He was intensely methodical and unswerving in his search of the essentials of the legal foundation and sources of legal conception and thought, holding devoutly to the highly embellished record of equity in all matters of jurisprudence. Now in his declining years he can look back upon a life which has been well spent and a record which needs no apology in any particular.

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### JOSEPH ROBERT KENDLE.

Among those who are eminently entitled to a place in a work of this character is the gentleman whose name initiates this paragraph, who has passed to his reward, but whose name will continue to adorn the annals of his community for all time, owing to the fact that he performed well **his part in the drama of civilization** and led a life that was exemplary in every respect. He set an excellent example to the younger generations, for he was a leader in his locality in all matters that pertained to its upbuilding, and in a conservative manner did what good he could in all lines as he labored for his own advancement and that of his family. His memory is well worthy to be cherished by his descendants and friends.

Joseph Robert Kendle was born September 14, 1841, in Gibson county, Indiana, the son of George Kendle, who was a native of Harrison county, Indiana. George Kendle came to Gibson county at an early date, and passed the remainder of his life in this community, his death occurring in the city of Princeton.

The subject of this brief biographical review obtained such education as was afforded by the schools of that period, and then took up the pursuit of agriculture, in which he was one of the most successful men in Gibson county. The breeding and raising of fine live stock occupied much of his attention, a ready market always being found for his products in this line.

September 25, 1862, Mr. Kendle was united in the bonds of matrimony to Isabelle Polk, daughter of Clayborn and Rachel (Shoptaugh) Polk, who were born and reared in Kentucky, although Mrs. Kendle was a native of Gibson county. Clayborn Polk was a blacksmith, an expert sawsmith and gunsmith, but on his removal to Indiana devoted almost all his attention to agriculture, in which vocation he soon established himself as a leader among the progressive men of his time. He was one of the first in his community to ditch land in order to increase its fertility, and it is noted that his influence along the lines of scientific farming was felt in later years, while his interest in the schools was productive of much good along educational lines. He built the first grist mill in Gibson county.

No children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Kendle. Mr. Kendle built the fine home in 1882 in which his widow resides, and at that time he retired from active farming. The discovery of oil on Mr. Kendle's farm added much to its value, there now being twenty wells located on the three hundred acres owned by his widow.

Although never aspiring to public office, Mr. Kendle took an active interest in public affairs, being a Democrat and having well defined views on the subject of prohibition, of which he was an earnest advocate. Fraternally, he was a member of the Free and Accepted Masons, while his church affiliations were with the General Baptists.

Mrs. Kendle, who is now spending the winters in Florida, has two sisters and two brothers living.

Thus, in this all too brief life record, are given the principal events of interest in the life of one who ever gave his support to all worthy enterprises and projects for the general good, so that, although he has passed from the life militant to the life triumphant, his character still lives in

the memories of his fellow men as a model citizen and one who made a large contribution to the development and progress of this section of the state. Mrs. Kendle has, since her husband's death, been very successful in the handling of her business affairs, and donates generously to all enterprises having for their ends the good of the community.

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#### GEORGE WEBER.

Though nature affords excellent opportunities for the carrying on of certain lines of labor in every locality, there is demanded of any man great industry and diligence if he succeeds in any business. Competition makes him put forth his best efforts and it requires great care to conduct any business enterprise along profitable lines. This is especially true of farming and from the time of earliest spring planting until the crops are harvested the farmer's life is a busy one. Even through the winter months he prepares for the labors of the coming year and thus lays the foundation of his success for the ensuing year. And, yet, the farmer leads a most independent existence and always has the satisfaction of getting a day off whenever he desires. Gibson county has as fine farms and excellent farmers as can be found anywhere in the state of Indiana, and among these farmers is the subject of this sketch.

George Weber, the son of Adam and Catherine (Cumbel) Weber, was born August 17, 1858, in Posey county, Indiana. His parents were both natives of Germany, and came to this country and settled in Posey county before the Civil war. Adam Weber was a very successful farmer and at the time of his death was one of the largest land owners in Posey county, having several hundred acres of land in the county. He exercised all those qualities of German thrift and industry which have made the sons of Germany leaders in this country in whatever they have undertaken. No country has sent better emigrants to America than Germany and they are always an important factor in every community so fortunate as to get them as settlers. Adam Weber lived to a ripe old age, not passing away until 1885.

George Weber received his early education in the Posey county schools and worked on his father's farm until his marriage. Here he was taught by his worthy father all those multitudinous details which the farmer must know if he wants to be successful in his chosen vocation.

Upon his marriage on January 15, 1884, to Catherine Maurer, the daugh-

ter of George and Elizabeth (Carter) Maurer, he went to farming on eighty acres which he had previously bought but not paid for entirely. His wife's father was a native of Germany and had come to this state early in life and settled in Gibson county where he married, his wife being a native of the county. To Mr. and Mrs. Weber were born nine children: Elizabeth (deceased), whose birth occurred April 15, 1885; Mary, born December 22, 1887; Maggie, born September 7, 1889; Joseph, born October 24, 1891; William, born April 15, 1894, who is a traveling salesman out of Chicago; Frances, born November 6, 1896; Theresa, born June 1, 1899; Edith, born October 29, 1902; Anna, born September 2, 1906. All of the children are still at home except Mary and Maggie, who live at Evansville, Indiana.

Mr. Weber has been a very successful manager and has gradually added to his landed possessions until he now owns one hundred forty-three and a half acres in this county. He has built a fine residence upon his farm and enjoys all the modern conveniences of life. This has been accomplished by the application of those principles of sterling honesty and integrity in all his business transactions with his fellow citizens.

The Democratic party has always received his earnest endorsement and upon election days he gives to its men and measures his ballot. He has never asked for any political favors at the hands of his party being content to devote all of his time and energy to his agricultural interests. He and his family are loyal members of the Catholic church and contribute liberally of their means to the support of that denomination. They have always co-operated with every movement which was directed toward the bettering of the community in which they lived. The honesty of Mr. Weber stands as an unquestioned fact in his career and there are other elements which are equally strong in his character and which command for him the unqualified confidence of those with whom he is associated.

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### JOSEPH SEBASTIAN.

Gibson county is characterized by a goodly share of sturdy German descendants and no better people can be found in any section of the state. They have done much for the development of the state and wherever they have settled they have been prominent factors in the material progress of their respective communities and have done their full share towards the establishment of the various institutions of civilization. Many of these honored



pioneers are still living in the midst of the scenes of their former labors and are today enjoying the richly merited respect and material rewards which have come to them as the result of their earnest and honest endeavors. One of this number is the gentleman whose name heads this brief sketch and whose father was one of the earliest German settlers of the county.

Joseph Sebastian, one of the most prosperous German descendants of the county, the son of George J. and Genieva (Armbruster) Sebastian, was born July 10, 1854, in Vanderburg county, Indiana. Both of his parents were natives of Germany, his father coming to America when he was about thirty-five years of age and settling on land near Evansville. At that time the land was a forest wilderness and the axe of the white man had never touched it. He paid the first taxes on the land and with grim determination started in to make his farm yield the best possible results. He was compelled to endure all of those hardships and deprivations which fall to the lot of the pioneers in any new country, and with true German thrift he succeeded. He and his good wife in the course of time had one of the best farms in the county and reared a large family of eight children, the subject of this sketch being their fifth child.

Joseph Sebastian's boyhood days were spent in the usual manner of farmer lads, going to the district schools for a short time in the winter and working on his father's farm in the summer. He continued to labor on the home farm until his marriage, which occurred on April 6, 1880. His wife was Louisa Wolf, the daughter of Martin and Mary A. (Deamer) Wolf. Both of his wife's parents were born in Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Sebastian are the parents of five children: Joseph G., who was born May 10, 1881. He is a blacksmith and liveryman at Mackey, Indiana, and also manages the grain elevator at the same town. He married Anna Brahm and has five children: Bruner, Katherine, Wibert, Rosa and George Washington; John M., the second child, was born February 26, 1887, and lives upon one of his father's farms. He married Mary Angemier and has one son, Joseph G.; two sons are living on a homestead in Montana—Martin F., born April 24, 1885, and Frank A., born November 25, 1886; Mary G., the youngest child of the subject, is at Ferdinand, Indiana, in a convent.

Mr. Sebastian is possessed of more than ordinary ability, as is shown by his success in life. Starting out with practically nothing, he has gradually added to his landed possessions until he now owns a farm of three hundred acres of as fine land as can be found in the county. This result has been obtained only by painstaking and conscientious efforts and the application

of strict business principles. As a citizen and neighbor he takes a lively interest in whatever concerns the welfare of his community, being a man of intelligence, good judgment and commendable public spirit. He has a beautiful home on his farm where he and his faithful wife are surrounded with all the comforts of modern life.

Mr. Sebastian's affiliations politically have always been with the Republican party but he has never sought any office at the hands of his party. He and all the members of his family are devoted adherents of the Catholic church and have contributed to the various activities of their church in accordance with their means. His life has been wholesome and exemplary in every respect and his course in all matters has been such as to win him the respect and regard of all with whom he has come in contact. As a gentleman, citizen, business man and Christian, his life has been well rounded out and he stands today as one of the best representative men of his county.

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#### LEVI WALLACE COULTER.

Conspicuous among the representative men and public-spirited citizens of Gibson county is the well known gentleman whose name forms the caption of this article. He has made his influence felt for good in his community in Montgomery township, where he owns eighty-eight acres of finely located land, being a man of sterling worth, whose life has been closely interwoven with the history of the community in which he resides. His efforts have always been for the material advancement of his locality, as well as for the social and moral welfare of his fellow men, and the well regulated life he has led has gained the respect and admiration of all his fellow citizens.

Levi Wallace Coulter was born on December 8, 1834, on the Susquehanna river in Pennsylvania, the son of Hugh and Rebecca (Wilaman) Coulter. When he was a little child about a year old, his parents decided to try their fortunes in what then seemed the far west and decided to settle in Indiana, and did so, locating about five miles north of Washington, Indiana, Daviess county. There they purchased land, but later disposed of it and removed to Gibson county. Hugh Coulter had lived there but a few years when his death occurred about the year 1852, while the subject of this sketch was quite a young man.

Levi Wallace Coulter first came to Gibson county in the spring of 1848.

having made arrangements to work for a brother-in-law residing here. This was Samuel Wheeler, who had rented a farm on Black river in the southern portion of Montgomery township. Two years later Samuel Wheeler moved within about seven miles of Evansville, Indiana, where he also rented a farm, and young Levi Wallace Coulter went with him. They remained there about a year and in the fall of 1850 Wheeler purchased land in Gibson county, north of Union Chapel. Levi Wallace Coulter returned with his brother-in-law, but hired out to another man for six months. It was his wish to attend school and the arrangement entered into was that he should work for six months and board and clothing to be furnished him and be permitted to attend school. He fulfilled his part of the agreement, but his employer did not and so he sought another place, working about for different neighbors. He worked for Edward Knowles until 1854 and then entered into an agreement with him whereby he was to operate Knowles' farm for his board and half the crops. Mr. Knowles died the following autumn.

In the fall of 1856, the subject of this sketch was united in marriage to Malissa Knowles, daughter of Nathan and Temperance (Boren) Knowles. Malissa Knowles was born November 23, 1834, and was reared on the land where they now reside, the same spot they have lived ever since their marriage fifty-seven years ago. Truly this is an enviable record, a privilege enjoyed by few indeed. Nathan Knowles, father of Mrs. Coulter, was born June 17, 1795, and, when a small boy, went from his home in Delaware to Georgia with his parents, James Knowles and wife. He had reached young manhood when in 1811 the family came here and his father, James Knowles, secured land on section 23 in Montgomery township, where Mounts Station is now, and there he passed the remainder of his life. After a few years, Nathan Knowles entered land in section 35, north of Cynthiana, where he lived for many years and on which spot he died February 2, 1892. Had he lived until the following June, he would have been ninety-seven years old. It was there he was married to Temperance Boren, who was born September 19, 1800, and died September 13, 1835. She was the daughter of Nicholas Bowen, who settled near Blythe Chapel in Gibson county and died there. Ezekiel and John were his sons and located and died east of Cynthiana.

Levi Wallace Coulter and wife are the parents of two children, namely: Elvis M., who lives on the same farm with his father and attends to the actual work about the place. His wife was Sally Downs and they have a family of four children, two sons and two daughters: Floyd and Grover are the sons, and the daughters are Mrs. Cleo Cater and Mrs. Mamie Steele. The other

son of Mr. and Mrs. Coulter is Nathan McClellan, who resides about one and one-half miles east of his father on the line between Johnson and Montgomery townships. He married Etta Pitzer and they have two children, Opal and Wilson.

The house in which Mr. and Mrs. Coulter live was built in 1821 when timber was plentiful and that of which it is composed is heavy and strong. It was originally a log house of one large room with a great fire place in one end, but has since been weatherboarded, added to and made a more modern dwelling. Mr. Coulter has an excellent memory and has many interesting things to tell of early pioneer days. Their home has an inviting air of hospitality that insures a welcome to all. Mr. Coulter recalls the log rollings of those early spring times and says the first cook stove he ever saw was owned by his brother, Hiram, who had purchased it at Washington, Indiana, and used it to heat his house. That was about 1847. He also recalls the enthusiasm of the people over the first railroad, and the timidity felt at anything that could run so fast of its own power, although it would be considered anything but speedy in our day and age. Politically, Mr. Coulter has always given his support to the Democrat party. His many years of residence in the community have won for him and his faithful wife the unbounded friendship of old and young alike.

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#### ANDREW J. WILDEMANN.

One of the enterprising and successful farmers of Gibson county who has succeeded in his chosen vocation solely through his own courage, persistency and good management is Andrew J. Wildemann, of Center township, a man who believes in lending what aid he can to his neighbors and the general public while advancing his individual interests. Descended from German parentage, he has all of those excellent traits which make the German citizens of our country welcome wherever they settle.

Andrew J. Wildemann, the son of Charles and Sally (Aker) Wildemann, was born in Posey county, Indiana, November 4, 1863. Both of his parents were natives of Germany and lived there until after their marriage, when they came to America and settled in Posey county. In 1882 the family moved to Gibson county and settled on the farm now owned by their son, Henry. Charles Wildemann died July 27, 1909, his wife having passed away

many years before, February 23, 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wildemann were the parents of a large family of twelve children: Mrs. Carrie Whitman; Mrs. Katie Gerhart, deceased; Andrew J.; Mrs. Lizzie Weaver; Mrs. Rosie Stateman; Charles, who is represented elsewhere in this book; Henry, who is also represented elsewhere in this volume; Frank, a farmer of Center township, in this county; Joseph; Mrs. Maggie Smith; and Sallie, who died infancy.

Andrew J. Wildemann received the limited education which was to be obtained from the district schools of Posey county and has supplemented it with reading and close observation. He assisted his father on the home farm until the time of his marriage, in this way becoming familiar with all the details which mark the successful farmer.

Andrew J. Wildemann was married to Katherine M. Freppon, the daughter of Mattias and Katherine Freppon, on November 22, 1892. Mattias Freppon was a native of Germany and came to this country with his parents when he was about three years of age. He saw service in the Civil war in Company A, Forty-second Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was in continuous action for three years and six months. Mr. and Mrs. Freppon are still living in Evansville, Indiana.

Mr. and Mrs. Wildemann are the parents of three children: Stella R., born August 23, 1893, and still living at home; Lillie, deceased; Leo, deceased; they also reared a boy, Herbert Chessier, taking him in their home when he was nine years of age. He continued to live with them until he was eighteen, when he moved to Montana.

Mr. Wildemann has been very successful as a tiller of the soil on his farm of one hundred and twelve and a half acres of land. He is careful and conservative in all his business transactions and yet is sufficiently far-sighted to make good investments. As a stockholder and director in the Francisco State Bank, he is closely identified with the financial interests of his community, and is recognized as a man of more than ordinary ability along business and commercial lines. He also has invested in property in the town of Princeton, Indiana.

Mr. Wildemann has always advocated the policies and principles of the Democratic party, and takes an active interest in the caucuses and conventions of his party. However, he has never been a candidate for political office, preferring to give all of his time and attention to his own affairs. He and the remainder of his family are devout members of the Catholic church and contribute liberally of their means to its support. Mr. Wildemann is a man

who makes friends wherever he goes, and because of his personal qualities of honesty and integrity, he has a wide circle of friends and acquaintances in the community where he has lived so many years.

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### ELIJAH BINKLEY

To a great extent the prosperity of the agricultural section of our country is due to the honest industry, the sturdy persistence, the-unswerving perseverance and the wise economy which so prominently characterize the farming element of the Hoosier state. Among this class may be mentioned the subject of this life record, who, by reason of years of indefatigable labor and honest effort, has not only acquired a well merited material prosperity, but has also richly earned the highest esteem of all with whom he is associated. Mr. Binkley has preferred to spend his life in his native community, believing that richer opportunities existed near his own threshold than elsewhere. He represents one of the old and sturdy families of the section of the state of which this history deals, the Binkleys having played well their part in the affairs of the same from the early days to the present time and the subject has sought to keep the good name of his progenitors untarnished.

Elijah Binkley, who for many years was numbered among the active and industrious agriculturists of Gibson county, but who is now retired from active labor, was born on December 26, 1833, in Patoka township, this county, and is the son of George and Catherine (Chinn) Binkley. These parents, who both were natives of Yadkin county, North Carolina, were reared and married in their native state and in 1827 came to Warrick county, Indiana. A short time later they removed to Gibson county, locating in Patoka township, where Mr. Binkley secured a tract of wild land, which he cleared and developed into a good farm. Their first home was a rude log cabin, typical of that pioneer period, and here they established their home and reared their children to honorable manhood and womanhood. They spent the remainder of their lives on that place, and died there. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal church and people of sterling qualities of character, enjoying to a very creditable degree the confidence of the community. They were the parents of eleven children, namely: James, who went to Kansas and was there killed; Frederick, who moved to Kansas, where his death occurred; Jacob, deceased; Elijah, the immediate subject of this sketch; Pauline, the widow of William Van Zant, and now residing in Princeton; Julia Ann, the

wife of Henry Thomas Tichenor, of Princeton; Dicy, deceased, who was the wife of William Spore, of Princeton; George, deceased; Caroline, who lives in Kansas; Lovina is the widow of Warren Wade of Missouri, and Lewis, a retired farmer of Princeton.

The subject of this sketch received a limited education, his only opportunity being the subscription schools of his neighborhood, which in that early day were rather primitive, both in methods and equipment. He lived at home until about 1858, when he was married, and then lived for a while on a part of his present farm, which he cleared and otherwise improved. This place has been added to from time to time until he is now the owner of eighty acres of valuable and well-improved land. To the cultivation of this tract, Mr. Binkley devoted himself with such splendid success that in 1901, feeling that he had gained a competency sufficient to free his later years from care, he retired, and is now living quietly at his home in Patoka township.

On April 8, 1858, Mr. Binkley married Matilda Sweezy, a native of Gibson county, Indiana, a daughter of Sanford and Elizabeth (Jennings) Sweezy. These parents were born and reared in Nelson county, Kentucky, but were early settlers in Gibson county, where they located on a tract of land in Patoka township. To Mr. and Mrs. Sweezy were born the following children: Nancy J., deceased; William H., deceased, and Matilda, who is now Mrs. Binkley. Sanford Sweezy died at the age of fifty. He had been a successful farmer, and as a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, he wielded a beneficent influence in that community. He was three times married, his second wife being Nellie LaGrange, and the third wife, Mary Ann Booker. To Mr. and Mrs. Binkley has been born a son, Henry L. Binkley, a traveling salesman, who married Mary Alice Irvin, and they have a daughter, Hazel, the wife of Paul Carey.

Politically, Mr. Binkley has always voted the Republican ticket, especially in national elections, while in local affairs he assumes a more independent attitude, voting for the man whom he deems best qualified for the office. He is in close touch with all public works, and holds a decided opinion on all the great issues of the day. He and his wife are members of the General Baptist church, belonging to the society known as the White Church. Mr. Binkley is well preserved for a man of his years, retaining his mental and physical faculties to a marked degree, and, having a splendid memory, is authority on many incidents connected with the early life of the community. It is related of him that at one time he knew personally almost every resident of Gibson county. Having begun life practically at the bottom of the ladder, he climbed



to the top with no help but a brave heart, industrious hand and an intelligent brain and is a living example of what may be accomplished in this favorite country of nature, by patient perseverance, even under circumstances oftentimes discouraging. Genial and unassuming by nature, he has many warm friends and is liked by all who know him.

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### EDGAR MAUCK.

The biography to which the reader's attention is now directed is that of Edgar Mauck, ex-county treasurer of Gibson county, Indiana, and successful farmer, a man who, by reason of his active interest in politics, his business connections and his genial personality, is widely known and universally liked and respected. The families from which Mr. Mauck is descended have been prominent in the history of Gibson and other counties in the southern portion of the state, and it is highly interesting to trace back his family for several generations.

Beginning with John Mauck, great-grandfather of the immediate subject of this sketch, we find he was with Cornwallis's army at the battle of Yorktown. A native of Virginia, he married a Miss Keyser and after the close of the Revolutionary war he went into Tennessee, and, still journeying westward, came to the Kentucky shore of the Ohio river at a point opposite the present town of Mauckport, in Harrison county, Indiana. This was in the year 1801, at which time there was the merest settlement at the place named. He came into Indiana at that point, obtained land, on which he located and the town that sprung up about him was given his name. He was a man of ability and a leader of his day, and was known far and wide and highly respected by all. He built the first mill at Mauckport and, after rearing a large family, he and his wife died and were buried there.

Joseph, one of the sons of John Mauck, and grandfather of Edgar Mauck, was born in 1787 and took as his wife Grace Broyles. They came to Gibson county about the year 1821 and obtained wild land, which they cleared and made a home. His efforts were mainly devoted to farming, but he also operated flat boats on the river, a picturesque mode of transportation in those days. Flat boats were constructed, loaded perhaps with the produce of a whole neighborhood and, manned by several men, would drift down the river to various points, sometimes even as far as the excellent





ALFRED MAUCK.



market at New Orleans, and then, when the cargo was disposed of, would make the return journey, often the entire distance, by foot. Joseph was one of three brothers, the others being John and Henry, who came together to Gibson county, locating in Montgomery township. All reared large families and the present-day Maucks are mostly descendants of these three brothers. Joseph was also widely known and respected, as had been his father, and was a leading man of his day in the community. He was a member of the Baptist church and a Democrat. His death occurred in 1857. Joseph and wife reared a family of eleven children, who grew to manhood and womanhood, namely: Elizabeth, born September 20, 1808, became the wife of Thomas Roberts, and they passed their lives together in Montgomery township, Gibson county. Julius, who was born December 20, 1810, and passed his life in the same township, was a man unusually well educated for his day and community. Jacob, born August 21, 1813, lived in Montgomery township. Samuel, born June 19, 1815, lived in Montgomery township and died in Princeton. Catherine, born April 9, 1818, became the wife of Thomas Wilkins. Abram, born February 17, 1821, lived in Montgomery township, but later removed to Mt. Carmel, Illinois, where he followed his vocation, that of a miller. John, born October 17, 1824, was a miller and merchant engaged with his brother Abraham, and was drowned in Mt. Carmel, Illinois, in 1861. The eighth child was Alfred (father of Edgar Mauck), born May 1, 1827; died June 26, 1913. Ellen, born May 24, 1830, became the wife of Henry Ayres. Lucinda J., born May 6, 1833, married Reuben Emerson. They lived in Montgomery township on the old homestead and were the parents of two children, Thomas and Calvin. The youngest child of this good old-fashioned family was Susan, born December 1, 1836, and who married William Redman. They made their home in Mt. Carmel, Illinois. All of those above mentioned are now dead.

Alfred Mauck, the father of the immediate subject of this sketch, was born as above stated, in 1827. He received only a limited schooling in his youth, but it was a foundation properly laid and on it he reared a structure of learning which would credit to one of excellent college training. He was a great reader of history, a tireless student of the Bible, and a fine mathematician. He was always fully informed on current events and considered an authority in such matters. In all this he had the advantage of a remarkable memory, which was doubtless of untold assistance both in acquiring knowledge and in the conduct of his business. All his life was spent in Gib-

son county. Until his twenty-third year he made his home on the old homestead, and at that time bought a general store in Owensville, where he was in partnership with Smith Devin for several years. He later had as a partner Henry Ayres, which connection continued until he came to Princeton, in 1859 and purchased the Zenith mill. This mill he operated for several years, in the course of which he purchased his partner's interest. During this time he was also in the mercantile and pork-packing business. He sold his milling interest in 1881, after which time he gave his undivided attention to his farming interests. He owned land in Patoka, Washington, Montgomery and Center townships. He was a stanch Democrat, vitally interested in the affairs of his party, but never aspired to office, although he was induced to serve once as councilman.

Alfred Mauck was first married in 1849 to Nancy Devin, of Princeton, who was born in 1833, a daughter of James and Hannah (Chapman) Devin. Her father was the son of the Rev. Alexander Devin, one of the first Baptist ministers in Gibson county, who resided in Princeton, where he died. He was also a farmer. Her mother was a native of Kentucky and the daughter of Robert Chapman, who built the first brick building on the town square of Princeton. He later went to Glasgow, Missouri, where he died. Nancy Devin Mauck had one son, Edgar, subject of this sketch, and she died May 1, 1854, while still a young woman.

Alfred Mauck was married the second time to Rachael Lindley, of Orange county, Indiana, who died in 1856. His third wife was Mary A. Maris, of Parke county, Indiana, who died May 17, 1893. To this union was born the following children: Luella, who became the wife of William Hargrove, of Indianapolis; Grace, who married John B. Chism, of Princeton; Mabel K., wife of Ellis A. Auburn, farmer and dealer in automobiles of Princeton; and Alfred M., who married Jenetta Tresloff. He is a farmer on the old home place in Patoka township. Alfred, the father, was connected with his brothers in Mt. Carmel, Illinois, where they carried on a thriving commission business.

Edgar Mauck was born in Owensville, Indiana, January 4, 1854. His elementary schooling was received in Princeton and he later attended a normal school and also received instruction at other places. He was early engaged with his father in his milling and farming interests. He was united in marriage April 5, 1883, to Margaret Angeline Fitzgerald, of Posey county, Indiana. Her father was a native of Gibson county, who moved to Posey county, Indiana, later to White county, Illinois, and again back to Posey

county, where he died in 1901. His wife died in 1886. He was a farmer all his life. In addition to their daughter, who became the wife of Edgar Mauck, they had other children, namely: Florence, who married Nathan Montgomery and resided in Posey county, Indiana. Both are now dead. Laura (deceased), who was the wife of Al Robb, who lives in Missouri. Lizzie (deceased), wife of Y. P. Smith, of Plattsburgh, Missouri. Janie, wife of Silas Hines, and D. G., who married Mary Turpin, and they live on the old place in Posey county.

After his marriage, Edgar Mauck farmed in Washington township for three years, when he removed to Pleasanton, Iowa, where for eight years he engaged in farming and stock raising. At the end of this time he returned to Gibson county and settled in Center township, where he has since engaged in stock raising in connection with farming. Up-to-date in all methods pertaining to his chosen line of work, he has been very successful. Mr. Mauck has been a life-long supporter of the Democratic party, to whose affairs he has given much of his time. He was elected treasurer of Gibson county in 1908 and served four years. He has filled other offices within the gift of his party, and to the discharge of such duties has carried the unvarying integrity and kindly manner which have won for him the liking and respect of all who know him.

Mr. and Mrs. Mauck have a family of three children: Samuel F., who was educated in the home schools and the Kirckville state normal, became a teacher in the public schools and is now superintendent of the schools of Bunceton, Missouri. He married Fay, daughter of W. H. Million, of Boonville, Missouri. To them has been born one son, William E. Luella and Laura, young daughters, remain at home, the former attending high school and the latter still in the grades. The religious sympathies of the family are with the Baptist church. He became a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in 1877.

Mr. Mauck is one of the prominent and leading men of Gibson county, a man foremost in every movement which has as its object the good of the community. Abreast with all questions of the hour, his generous nature is moved not alone by sentiment, but directed by intelligence as well. Such a clean, helpful life is of inestimable value to a community and a host of warm personal friends bear witness to the regard in which he is held. Such sterling characters are "the salt of the earth" and by their saneness and cleanliness set up the standard for right living in their communities.

## MICHAEL EISLER.

There is perhaps no record in this volume which more clearly demonstrates the force of industry and honesty in the affairs of life than does the life history of the late Michael Eisler. Almost every civilized country on the face of the globe has sent its representatives to Indiana, but there is no more important or valued element in our citizenship than that which has come from Germany. Mr. Eisler was among the native sons of the Fatherland who crossed the Atlantic to America, finding here good opportunities which he improved, with the result that he became a successful man and one whose efforts were of great value to the community in which he lived. His birth occurred in Germany on October 6, 1830, and he grew to manhood in his native country, where he learned the trade of a shoemaker.

Upon coming to this country he took up his abode in Princeton, Indiana, where he followed his trade of shoemaker, building up a large and lucrative business in the town and vicinity. He crossed the briny deep several years before the Civil war and the demand for his product was largely augmented by the war, with the result that he was enabled to buy a farm after the close of the war. He gradually added to his landed possessions until at the time of his death, on October 6, 1911, he owned a fine farm of one hundred and eighty acres of land in Center township, which was well improved and in a high state of cultivation.

Although he started out with nothing, he worked earnestly and persistently and because of the productiveness of the soil and his careful and practical manner of engaging in agricultural pursuits he was known as one of the most prosperous farmers of the county at the time of his death. Early in life he was married to Dora Rinefort, a native of Germany, and she is still living at the advanced age of ninety-three and has good health. Mr. and Mrs. Eisler were the parents of two sons: John W., who was born November 4, 1865, and lives with his aged mother and his brother on the old home farm. He has never married. The other son is Thomas, born February 6, 1867, who was married on June 24, 1913, to Lizzie McDivit, the daughter of James and Lizzie McDivit.

The Eisler brothers are now operating their farm of two hundred acres, which is owned jointly by them and their mother. The brothers are among the most progressive and enterprising farmers of the county and in their diversified system of agriculture have met with very gratifying success. The county has benefited by their labors because they have raised the standard of

farming by the use of modern and up-to-date methods of operation. They have a fine home, excellent barns and outbuildings, and take a great deal of pride in keeping their premises in neat condition. Thomas is a stockholder and director in the Francisco State Bank, and takes an active part in the management of the affairs of the bank. The brothers are both affiliated with the Democratic party, but have never taken an active part in politics, preferring to devote all of their time to the care of their agricultural interests. They are loyal members of the German Evangelical church, and have always contributed liberally of their means to the support of that denomination. They are keen and clear-headed, always busy, always careful and conservative in financial matters, moving slowly and surely in every business transaction, and in all that they have done they have so conducted themselves that they have won the confidence of all with whom they come in contact.

Michael, the father of these two worthy sons, never regretted his determination to come to America, for he found that its advantages had not been exaggerated. He was a man of strong will and marked force of character and these elements gained him the success which made him one of the most substantial citizens of the county. His loss to the community and by his family was deeply felt and it is with pleasure that we present his record to our readers as that of one of our representative citizens of foreign birth, loyal to his adopted country, and a man whom to know was to love.

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#### HARRY B. GUDGEL, M. D.

The physician who would succeed in his profession must possess many qualities of head and heart not included in the curriculum of the schools and colleges he may have attended. In analyzing the career of the successful practitioner of the healing art it will invariably be found to be true that a broad-minded sympathy with the sick and suffering and an honest, earnest desire to aid his afflicted fellow men have gone hand in hand with skill and able judgment. The gentleman to whom this brief tribute is given fortunately embodies these necessary qualifications in a marked degree and by energy and application to his professional duties is building up an enviable reputation and drawing to himself a larger and remunerative practice.

Harry B. Gudgel, M. D., was born in Hazleton, Gibson county, Indiana, October 7, 1877, the son of John Franklin Gudgel, M. D., a native of Gibson county, born in Columbia township near Oakland City, January 29, 1849, and

died October 4, 1901, and Cynthia Anna (Baldwin) Gudgel, born in Gibson county. The father of John Franklin Gudgel was Andrew Gudgel, a native of Owensville, Indiana, while Andrew Gudgel's father, who was also named Andrew, came from Kentucky to Indiana in 1811 and located in what is now Gibson county, between Owensville and Fort Branch. Here he bought government land and engaged in farming. He was a man of excellent stock and of unquestioned integrity.

The family name was formerly spelled "Goodshall," the change to the present mode of spelling having been made many years ago. Dr. Gudgel's father received his elementary education in the district schools, after which he taught several years, and then took up the study of medicine at Oakland City, Indiana, with Dr. McGowan. Subsequently he attended medical college in Louisville, Kentucky, and then the Miami Medical College at Cincinnati, graduating from that institution in 1874. Upon completing his studies in preparation for the work of his chosen profession, he came to Hazleton, where he engaged in practice until his death. He was a man who took an active interest in public affairs, and while not an office seeker or holder, he took great pride in casting his vote for men and principles that stood on high moral grounds. His death, due to Bright's disease, occurred in his fifty-second year.

Dr. Gudgel, the eldest of a family of five children, secured a good elementary education in the common schools and thereafter engaged in teaching in Hazleton, which profession he followed for three years. Being desirous of following in the footsteps of his worthy father, in 1893, he entered the Medical College of Indiana, at Indianapolis. On finishing the course at this institution, he further pursued his studies in the Louisville Medical College and then at the University of Illinois, graduating from the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Chicago in 1904. With this thorough and conscientious preparation for his life work, he returned to Hazleton and entered upon the practice of medicine, and the splendid practice which he has at present testifies that his efforts were not in vain.

In 1907 Doctor Gudgel was united in marriage to Emma Horrall, of Washington, Daviess county, Indiana, the daughter of S. O. Horrall, who was extensively interested in the lumber business and was well and favorably known throughout Indiana.

The subject is a member of the Indiana State Medical Association and of the Gibson County Medical Association, while, fraternally, he has membership in the blue lodge of the Masonic fraternity, in which he is a past



master; he has passed through the chairs in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is an earnest and appreciative member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

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### STANFORD WITHERSPOON.

An enumeration of the representative citizens of Gibson county, Indiana, would be incomplete without specific mention of the well known and popular gentleman whose name introduces this sketch. A member of one of the old and highly esteemed families of the county and a public spirited man of affairs, he has stamped the impress of his individuality upon the community and added luster to the honorable name which he bears, having always been scrupulously honest in all his relations with his fellowmen and leaving no stone unturned whereby he might benefit his own condition as well as that of his neighbors and friends; consequently **he has long ago won the favor of a great number of people of Center township, where he maintains his home and business and which township he is serving as trustee.**

Stanford Witherspoon was born September 2, 1871, in Montgomery township, Gibson county, near the city of Owensville, and is the son of John L. and Katherine (Scott) Witherspoon, both natives of Gibson county. They were the parents of a family of six children, the immediate subject of this sketch being the second child in order of birth. John L. Witherspoon had been engaged in farming in Gibson county all his life, his only absence being the three years' service he gave to his country during the dark days of the sixties as a member of Company A, Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry.

Stanford Witherspoon received his early education in the district schools of his native county and from the time he was quite a young boy he assisted his father in carrying on the work of the farm. His mother died when he was seventeen years of age and for five years thereafter he remained under the paternal roof. On August 26, 1894, he was united in marriage with Nora Stevens, daughter of E. B. and Julia (Reaver) Stevens, the former a native of Warrick county and the latter of Gibson county. To their union have been born two children, namely: Glen P., born June 26, 1896, and now in the second year of high school; and Hazel, born June 26, 1896, and in the first year of high school.

Until about three years ago, Mr. Witherspoon was engaged in farming.

when he removed his family to the town of Francisco, Gibson county, and engaged in the hardware business. He has been eminently successful in this business venture and is the owner of the fine new building in which his business is located. He is also the owner of various pieces of residence property about town and by his success shows what steady determination and effort rightly directed can accomplish.

Mr. Witherspoon gives his political support to the Republican party, in the affairs of which he always evinces a keen interest, and in 1908 he was elected trustee of Center township, Gibson county, on that ticket and is still in office today. The religious sympathies of the family are with the Methodist Episcopal church, of which Mr. Witherspoon is a member, and to the furtherance of whose interests he gives of his time and means.

Mr. Witherspoon stands high in public estimation by reason of the upright life he has led and through his genial and kindly nature he has made for himself a warm place in the estimation of those who know him best.

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### WILLIAM MONTGOMERY.

The biographies of enterprising men, especially of good men, are instructive as guides and incentives to others. The examples they furnish of patient purpose and steadfast integrity strongly illustrate what it is in the power of each to accomplish. Some men belong to no exclusive class in life; apparently insurmountable obstacles have in many instances awakened their dormant faculties and served as a stimulus to carry them to ultimate renown. The instances of success in the face of adverse fate would seem almost to justify the conclusion that self-reliance, with a half chance, can accomplish any reasonable object. The gentleman whose life history is herewith outlined was a man who lived to good purpose and achieved a splendid success. By a straightforward and commendable course he made his way to a respectable position in the business world, winning the hearty admiration of the people of his county and earning a reputation as an enterprising, progressive man of affairs which the public was not slow to recognize and appreciate.

William Montgomery was born on May 8, 1840, on the old Montgomery homestead in Patoka township, Gibson county, Indiana, the son of Green B. and Eliza (Fitzgerald) Montgomery, natives of Kentucky and Indiana, respectively. Green B. Montgomery came at an early date to Gibson county, Indiana, where he obtained a tract of wild land, making his

first home in the midst of a dense forest, which then covered this section of the country. He cleared a small spot and then erected a rude log cabin, which served him for a home until he was able to erect a more commodious and attractive home. Mr. Montgomery was a farmer, and spent the rest of his life actively engaged in the operation of this farm until his death, which occurred there. His wife died in Princeton. To him and his wife were born the following children: James, who was a farmer in Patoka township, but is now deceased, married Nancy Griffin; John B., who was a farmer near White Church, Patoka township, and was three times married—first to Sarah Perkins, second to Rebecca Pritchett and third to Maggie Barnett; William B., the immediate subject of this sketch; Parmelia, who married, first, Sandison Emberton, and then Joseph T. Woods, of Princeton, Indiana; Richard, a retired farmer of Princeton, who was a veteran of the Civil War, serving in the Eightieth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry; Martha, the wife of L. Olmstead of Patoka township; Willis, deceased, who married Elizabeth Faulkner, deceased; Thomas, the fifth child in order of birth, is a farmer in Patoka township, and married Cordelia McDowell; Victoris, the wife of Robert Corn; Nora, deceased, who was the wife of Charles Florica, of Arkansas.

William Montgomery received a limited education in the schools of his boyhood place, and his early years were characterized by hard, strenuous labor in assisting his father to clear and improve the home farm. However, he was not to be discouraged by the lack of educational opportunities, but, being naturally of a studious disposition and ambitious to learn, he applied himself closely to all the books obtainable and eventually became a well-informed man on general subjects. He lived at home until his marriage in 1869, when he located in Patoka township on the farm where his widow and son now live. Here he applied himself closely to agricultural pursuits during the remainder of his life and achieved a splendid success. He was readily recognized as an enterprising and progressive agriculturist, the peer of any of his contemporaries. He was not selfish in his interests, but was alive to everything that concerned the welfare of the community, giving his earnest support to every movement which promised to be of material benefit to his fellows. Mr. Montgomery had an honorable war history, having enlisted in 1861 as a private in Company B, Sixty-fifth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and serving his country faithfully about four years.

On March 31, 1869, Mr. Montgomery married Anna J. Woods, of Lynnville, Warrick county, Indiana, daughter of James and Jennie (Bigham)

Woods. James Woods was the son of David and Esther (Witherspoon) Woods, and was born in Patoka township, going to Warrick county, Indiana, for several years and back again to Princeton. In 1851 he located again in Princeton and engaged in the mercantile business, eventually locating on a farm southwest of that city, where his death occurred, his widow dying in Princeton. They were members of the United Presbyterian church and were the parents of ten children: Mary, deceased, married David Pierce; Margaret became the wife of Richard Riggs, of Princeton; Thomas H., deceased, was a member of the One Hundred and Thirty-sixth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and after four weeks' service, died and was brought home for burial; Anna J., wife of the subject of this sketch; Catherine, deceased, was the wife of William C. Daily; Frank is a farmer near King's Station in Patoka township in this county, and married Mary Boyle; Gilbert died unmarried; Louisa, deceased, was the wife of William Hanks; John B., a merchant at Princeton, married Mary C. Hanna.

To Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery were born ten children, namely: Charles F., who is employed in the Southern railway shops at Princeton, and married Amy Sherry, and has two children, Florence and Lillie; Mary Dell became the wife of Charles Knight, of Patoka township, and they have one son, Virgil; James died at the age of nine years; Elmer Walter, a farmer in Oklahoma, married Stella M. Brown; Clarence died at the age of three months; Jennie is the wife of William Blemker, a car repairer in the railroad shops at Princeton, and has two sons, Ralph and Jesse; Arthur is single, and remains at home with his mother; Maggie is the wife of Walter Arburn, a farmer near Princeton, and has four children, Darwin, Nola, Roy and Thelma; Ross is a lemon grower at Santa Paula, California; Fred, who is a ranchman at Santa Paula, California, married Bessie Woods, and has one child, Hazel Elenora.

Politically, William Montgomery gave life-long support to the Republican party, in the success of which he was deeply interested, though he was never an aspirant for public office for himself. His death occurred on December 18, 1896, after a life of earnest efforts characterized by strictest integrity, and his death was deeply mourned by all who knew him. He has been for many years a prominent, substantial and influential citizen of his community, who always stood for the best things in the community, and whose influence was ever on the side of right. Though devoting the major part of his time and attention to the development of his own interests, he never allowed the pursuit of wealth to warp his kindly nature, but pre-

served his faculties and the warmth of his heart for the broadening and helpful influence of life, being to the end the kindly, genial friend and gentleman whom it was a pleasure to meet. Mrs. Montgomery is a woman of fine personal character, possessing to a notable degree those womanly graces which win and retain friendship, and is highly respected throughout the community in which she has for so many years resided.

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### JAMES A. WESTFALL.

The student interested in Gibson county, Indiana, does not have to carry his investigation far into its annals before learning that James A. Westfall has long been an active and leading representative of its agricultural interests and that his labors have proven a potent force in making this a rich farming region. Through several decades he has carried on farming, gradually improving his valuable place, and while he has prospered in this, he has also found ample opportunity to assist in the material development of the county, and his co-operation has been of value for the general good.

James A. Westfall was born in Harrison county, Indiana, about ten miles west of Corydon, on December 1, 1838, the son of Stephen and Margaret (Clinger) Westfall. The latter, who was a daughter of William Kendle, of Butler county, Kentucky, was born between Knoxville and Nashville, east Tennessee, and her first husband was John Clinger. Stephen Westfall was reared in Kentucky and was there married, and became one of the pioneer settlers of Harrison county, Indiana, his first home being a small timber claim where he erected a log cabin, which was later succeeded by a more comfortable residence. Here he cleared and improved the farm, which he developed into one of the best of the locality, and lived there the remainder of his life, his death occurring on October 26, 1875, at the age of eighty years, seven months and twelve days. His wife died on October 27, 1888, aged ninety-two years, seven months and twenty-one days. The father had followed farming all his life; had become well-known throughout his section of the state and was highly respected by all who knew him. He and his wife were members of the United Brethren church. He was a Whig in politics in early life and later identified himself with the Republican party.

Stephen Westfall was married to Mrs. Margaret (Kendle) Clinger and to this union, in addition to James A., with whom this sketch deals, were born the following children: Lenora, the wife of Peter Hottle, who died De-

ember 10, 1848, at the age of twenty; William H., who died on May 25, 1863, at the age of forty years, one month and twenty-eight days, married Sarah Lowden; Matilda, who was the wife of Peter Hottle, died November 24, 1910; Nancy, who was the wife of Frederick Martin, died on September 4, 1913, at the age of seventy-nine years, nine months and twenty-one days; Hiram L., who married Mary Tichenor, and died on July 21, 1866, at the age of thirty-six years, seven months and twenty-one days; Sophia, the wife of John Brown, died February 15, 1871, aged forty-four years, three months and one day; Julia, the wife of a Mr. Daniels, died on February 9, 1870, aged forty-four years, three months and seventeen days. By her first marriage, Mrs. Westfall had three children: Elizabeth, who died March 17, 1841, aged two years; Mary, who was the wife of John Brown, and died January 18, 1844, at the age of twenty-nine years, and Margaret, the wife of Joseph Cole, who died July 18, 1854, at the age of thirty-eight. Stephen Westfall, the father of James A., died October 26, 1875, at the age of eighty years, seven months and twelve days.

James A. Westfall, the immediate subject of this sketch, is the only one of his family now living. He attended the old log school in Harrison county in his youth, his educational opportunities having been limited. He lived on the home farm until 1865, when he was married, when he came to Patoka township and engaged in farming, renting land for several years. In 1875 he bought his present farm in Patoka township, known as the old Ayres place, which is comprised of ninety-seven and one-half acres of splendid land, which he has improved and maintains in a fine state of cultivation. He has made many valuable and permanent improvements on the place, and here carries on a diversified system of agriculture, raising all the crops common to this locality. He also gives some attention to live stock, raising shorthorn and Holstein cattle, Duroc Jersey Red and Poland China hogs, and a good grade of horses. He exercises the closest personal supervision over every detail of his farm work, and the attractive and comfortable residence, commodious and well-arranged barns, good outbuildings and the general condition of the fields indicate him to be a man of excellent taste and sound judgment.

On October 26, 1865, Mr. Westfall was married to Eliza E. Cole, of Crawford county, Indiana, a daughter of David and Mary Cole, who were natives of Harrison county, Indiana, and were farming folks, and lived in that locality throughout their entire lives. In early days Mr. Cole had been a flatboat man on the Ohio river, having transported much Indiana produce to New Orleans and other southern river ports. To Mr. and Mrs. Westfall

have been born four children: Nettie J., at home; Orus M., a farmer in Patoka township, who married Oma Gambriel, and they have three children, Grace, Roy and Ralph; Lowell R., a farmer in Patoka township, married Miss McCarthy, and they have two children, Harvey and George; Irene is at home with her parents.

Politically, the Republican party has always claimed Mr. Westfall's support, while religiously, he and his family are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, to which they give earnest support. Personally, Mr. Westfall is friendly and wins and retains friends without effort, for he is at all times a gentleman, obliging, unassuming and honest in his dealings with his fellow men. His life has been one of unceasing industry and perseverance, and the systematic and honest methods which he has followed have won for him the unbounded confidence and regard of all who have formed his acquaintance.

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#### AARON TRIPPET.

Agriculture has been the true source of man's dominion on earth ever since the primal existence of labor and has been the pivotal industry that has controlled, for the most part, all the fields of action to which his intelligence and energy have been devoted. Among this sturdy element of Gibson county whose labors have profited alike themselves and the community in which they live is the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this sketch, and in view of the consistent life lived by the subject, all of which has been passed within the borders of this county, it is particularly fitting that the following short record of his career be incorporated in a book of this nature.

Aaron Trippet, an enterprising citizen, highly successful farmer and vice-president of The Citizens' State Bank, Hazleton, Indiana, was born in Gibson county, January 3, 1845, the son of Alexander and Nancy (King) Trippet. Both were natives of this county, the father coming from one of the oldest families here. All his life he was engaged in general farming and died in 1866. Alexander Trippet and wife were the parents of nine children, of whom the immediate subject of this sketch was the third child in order of birth.

When a youth, Aaron Trippet received such education as it was possible to obtain in the early schools of the county, but was somewhat handicapped in his attendance owing to his services being needed on the home farm. He



remained under the parental roof until reaching his twenty-second year, when he was united in marriage with Susan Robb, daughter of David and Delila (Decker) Robb, both natives of Gibson county. To this union have been born eleven children, four of whom still remain with the parents, namely: Aaron, Florence, May and Eunice. Iva lives in Hazleton, as does also Dora, wife of William F. Cassidy. David is engaged in the lumber business at Memphis, Tennessee, and Sanford resides in Princeton, where he is engaged in the practice of law. Lillie is the wife of Monzo E. Morrison, a farmer of Gibson county, and Stella, who married Wallace Harris, resides in Patoka. Mr. Trippet has been desirous that all his children receive a good education and thus they have been well fitted to cope with the problems of life.

At the time of his marriage, Mr. Trippet was the owner of seventy acres of fine land in White River township, Gibson county, where he carried on general farming, and so well did he do this, showing such unusual ability, that he was able to add to his holdings from time to time until he now stands possessed of over eight hundred acres of excellent land. He still carries on general farming, giving especial attention, perhaps, to the raising of fine strains of live stock. In addition to his duties as an agriculturist, he some time ago became identified with the affairs of The Citizen's State Bank of Hazleton, and fills the office of its vice-presidency. Early in life, Mr. Trippet became an ardent advocate of the principles of the Democratic party and has ever been active in its support.

Mr. Trippet is a man of forceful temperament, possessing untiring energy and fine discrimination. It is needless to add that he is highly respected by all who know him throughout the locality where he lives. In all the relations of life he has been found faithful to every trust, and because of his sterling worth, uncompromising integrity, courteous manner and kindly disposition, he has won and retains the warm regard of all with whom he associates, the latter including the very best people of the county.

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### JAMES W. BRUNER.

That life is the most useful and desirable that results in the greatest good to the greatest number, and though all do not reach the heights to which they aspire, yet in some measure each can win success and make life a blessing to his fellow men; and it is not necessary for one to occupy eminent public position to do so, for in the humbler walks of life there remains



much good to be accomplished and many opportunities for one to exercise talents and influence which in some way will touch the lives of those with whom we come in contact, making them brighter and better. In the list of Gibson county's successful citizens the subject of this review has long occupied a prominent place. In his career there is much that is commendable and his life forcibly illustrates what a life of energy can accomplish when plans are rightly laid and actions governed by right principles, noble aims and high ideals.

James W. Bruner is well known throughout Gibson county, where he was born on October 7, 1862, and where his entire life has been passed. He is the son of John C. and Sarah (Melton) Bruner, both of whom were natives of this county. The father's family were among the pioneers of the county and he himself passed his life within its borders engaged in agricultural work. James W. Bruner was the sixth child in a family of nine children and when young attended the school known to some of the older citizens of the county as the Deckard school. This was the only school he ever attended and his opportunities for an education were rather limited, for at the age of twelve, his father died, leaving the mother with heavy responsibilities. From that time, James W. assisted his older brothers in the operation of the home farm and while still quite a young man, the death of his elder brother William made it necessary for him to take charge. He assumed the duty which thus fell upon him and for a number of years continued to operate his mother's farm. Mr. Bruner is now residing on his one hundred and eighty-four acre farm in White River township, Gibson county, where he carries on general farming and stock raising and the general air of prosperity all about the place bespeaks the untiring energy and up-to-date methods employed by the owner. Mr. Bruner has business interests aside from the operation of his farm, being one of the principal stockholders in the Patoka National Bank, where he also fills a place on the board of directors. Mr. Bruner's business methods have ever been such as to win the confidence and respect of all with whom he came in contact and he is well worthy the prominence he has gained through his own endeavor.

Mr. Bruner has been twice married, his first wife being Susan G. Crowder, with whom he was united in marriage January 15, 1896. To their union were born four children, namely: Alta R., Edith M., Ralph J. and John W., all of whom reside at home. The present Mrs. Bruner was Carrie Denton, to whom Mr. Bruner was married April 2, 1907. She is a daughter of S. D. and Matilda A. Denton, both natives of the Hoosier state, and to Mr. Bruner by his second wife have been born two children, Lois D. and Robert.

Politically, Mr. Bruner gives his loyal support to the Democratic party, in whose affairs he has always taken a keen interest, while his church membership is with the Cumberland Presbyterian church, to whose support he is a generous contributor. His fraternal affiliation is with the time-honored order of Free and Accepted Masons, being a member of Columbia blue lodge, No. 450. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

Mr. Bruner is a member of that sterling class who, by the high tone of their lives, raise the standard of right living, a man to whom the ambitious younger generation can look as an example of what determination and right principles can accomplish in the face of obstacles. In every avenue of life's activities he has been true to every trust and is justly popular in his home community, always being in the forefront of the rank desiring all that is good and proper for those with whom he comes in contact. His years of service in the one location have endeared him to many friends both far and near.

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#### STORY OF PROVIDENCE SPRING, ANDERSONVILLE PRISON.

One of the most remarkable incidents of Divine interposition in behalf of suffering humanity, since the days of Moses, was the occurrence in Andersonville prison during the Civil war, when a stroke of lightning brought forth a spring of cool refreshing water for the relief of the thousands of famished prisoners confined in that place. Their only supply of water had been such as was afforded by a murky stream of surface drainage that ran through the stockade, infected with germs of disease and death. In answer to the cry of the children of Israel, the Lord directed Moses to strike the rock and the water gushed forth; just as surely, it must be conceded, in answer to the cry of the suffering patriots in Andersonville, did an unseen hand by lightning stroke cause a never-failing spring of water to gush forth from the dry ground. In reverent acknowledgment of the source from which this favor came the prisoners gave it the name of "Providence Spring," and this spring has continued from that time and is known by that name to this day.

While Providence Spring has a national history, it may have appropriate mention in a history of Gibson county, from the fact that some of Gibson county's soldiers suffered and died in Andersonville and had personal knowledge of this miraculous event. Among those who had this personal knowledge, and is probably the only one now living to relate it, is Albert Mills. He was among the first to visit the scene of the lightning stroke and



ALBERT MILLS TAKING A DRINK FROM PROVIDENCE  
SPRING, ANDERSONVILLE PRISON, 1885.



take a drink of water. He visited the place January 8, 1885, twenty-one years after, and took a drink from the same spring. A photograph was taken at this time showing him taking a drink and showing the spring as it now appears. A reproduction of this picture, which Mr. Mills prizes very highly, appears in another place in this work.

In relating his experience and observation of this event at the time of its occurrence, Mr. Mills says:

"In the afternoon of July 18, 1864, a day of unusual and oppressive heat in the Andersonville prison pen, there occurred one of the most terrific thunder storms that I ever heard or witnessed. One sharp flash of lightning after another played among the tall pines surrounding the stockade and over the camp of awe-stricken prisoners. About two o'clock there appeared to be a temporary lull in the storm and I stepped from under the shelter of our weather-worn blanket and took an observation of the effects of the storm. I was looking in the direction of the north hillside when a blinding flash of lightning like a ball of fire came direct to the earth with a deafening crash. I was certain that this thunderbolt had struck the earth inside of the stockade, and the place seemed to be near where a friend and comrade, Frank De-Lashmet, a Princeton boy, of the Fourteenth Indiana, had his tent. Apprehensive of the safety of Frank, and other comrades near, I went at once to investigate. I found that he and others had suffered a severe shock, but were not seriously affected.

"By this time several of the prisoners had gathered at the place and it was discovered that the lightning bolt had made a hole in the ground, a few feet beyond the 'dead line,' and in this hole there was a spring of clear cool water. This hole was about two and a half feet in diameter and about two feet in depth.

"It was certain death for a prisoner to cross the 'dead line,' and, as this spring was beyond that line, the prisoners soon devised a plan to procure water by attaching tin cups to poles, enabling them to reach the spring. As one after another of the thirsty comrades obtained a drink of this refreshing water he would kneel and thank God in reverent acknowledgment of this blessing, which we all recognized as coming direct from His hand. It was in the minds of all, too, that it was a mark of His infinite wisdom in causing this fountain of water to spring forth at this particular place, beyond the 'dead line,' and, therefore, free from trespass, or any claim of private ownership. When it was found that this was a never-failing spring, the water

was brought into camp on the safe side of the line, by means of a trench from the spring leading to a large box trough, which was made by the prisoners. This provided an inexhaustible supply of water for the thousands who visited the place, day and night, to quench their thirst.

"Since the days of my confinement there as a prisoner of war I have visited Andersonville twice, in 1885, and again in 1913. On both visits I found refreshment of body in drinking water from this spring, and a refreshment of memory in recalling the miraculous way it came into existence. Through the efforts of the Woman's Relief Corps, assisted by the Grand Army, the grounds inside the old stockade have been purchased and a fine monument has been erected, commemorating the suffering and sacrifices of the prisoners confined there. A stone pavilion has been erected over Providence Spring, suitably inscribed, preserving to future generations this memorial of Divine interposition in behalf of suffering humanity."

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#### ARTHUR F. BROWN.

Prominent in the affairs of Gibson county and distinguished as a citizen whose influence is extended far beyond the limits of the community honored by his residence, the name Arthur F. Brown stands out a conspicuous figure among the successful farmers of the locality of which this volume treats. All of his undertakings have been actuated by noble motives and high resolves and characterized by breadth of wisdom and strong individuality and his success and achievements but represent the result of fit utilization and innate talent on directing effort along those lines where mature judgment and rare discrimination led the way.

Arthur F. Brown, one of the leading young farmers of Patoka township, Gibson county, was born on August 21, 1874, in this township on the old Brown homestead. His father, John L. Brown, who was born on October 2, 1844, in Patoka township, was the son of David Brown, of Harrison county, Indiana, who was the first of the family to come to Gibson county, in 1840. He was twice married, first to a Miss Kendle and second to a Miss Straud. He obtained a tract of government land in Patoka township, which he cleared of the timber which covered it and there built a splendid house. He always followed agricultural pursuits and was known as a man of eminent respectability and well thought of in his community. His death occurred at Princeton. He was the father of four children, three sons and a daughter,

of whom there are now two living, James, in Oklahoma, and John L., the father of the subject, who is a successful farmer in Montgomery township, Gibson county. John L. Brown received his education in the common schools of his home neighborhood, being reared on the paternal farmstead. On coming to mature years, he married Jane Clark, a native of Gibson county, whose death occurred in 1893. John L. Brown has always followed farming and stock raising, and is widely known throughout this section of the country, making his home in Montgomery township, where he is numbered among the representative citizens of the community. An earnest Republican in politics, he has always taken a deep interest in local public affairs, though never an aspirant for public office. Religiously, he is a member of the General Baptist church. To him and his wife were born six children, namely: Eliza, who became the wife of George W. Woods, of Princeton, who is represented in a personal sketch elsewhere in this work; Lizzie, the wife of Matthew M. Knowles, a farmer of Patoka township; Fronia, the wife of Ott Hollis, a farmer and stock man of Patoka township; Eva, the wife of Harvey McCarthy, a farmer and implement dealer of Patoka township; Arthur F., the immediate subject of this sketch, and Harvey O., who also operates the old homestead of Patoka township.

Arthur F. Brown spent his boyhood days on his father's farm and received his education in the common schools at Princeton. In 1896 Mr. Brown located on his present farm in Patoka township, which is a part of the old John L. Brown place, and here he has successfully conducted agricultural operations throughout the years, receiving splendid success as an enterprising and up-to-date farmer. He is now the owner of two hundred and forty acres of splendid land, all of which is entirely under cultivation, and which returns a handsome profit to the owner. He raises principally wheat, corn and hay, while in the way of live stock he makes a specialty of shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs, as well as general purpose horses. He is modern in his ideas, giving due attention to every phase of successful agriculture, and is a man to adopt new methods, where their practicability has been demonstrated by experience.

On August 5, 1896, Mr. Brown married Florence Tichenor, who was born at Owensville, Indiana, the daughter of Willis H. and Lenora (Lucas) Tichenor, the father being a successful merchant and implement dealer at Owensville. To Mr. and Mrs. Brown have been born two children, Eunice and Mildred.

Politically, Mr. Brown has always given staunch support to the Repub-

lican party, but he has been too busy in the conduct of his own affairs to aspire to public office, though giving his earnest support to every enterprise having for its object the advancement of the local welfare. Religiously, he and his wife are earnest and faithful members of the General Baptist church, to the support of which they contribute liberally.

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### LOWELL R. WESTFALL.

Among the prosperous young farmers of Gibson county, who have built up a comfortable home and surrounded themselves with the comforts of life, none have attained a higher degree of success in as short a time as Lowell R. Westfall. With few opportunities except what his own efforts and those of his wife were capable of mastering, and with many difficulties to overcome he has made a success of life, and in so doing has earned the universal respect and esteem of all with whom he has come in contact. He is a man of tireless energy and strong courage and is a man whose career shows that he is an able and conscientious worker. As a citizen he is public spirited and enterprising to an unwonted degree. As a friend and neighbor he combines those qualities of head and heart that have won confidence and commanded respect. His life affords a splendid example of what an American youth, plentifully endowed with good common sense, energy and determination, can accomplish when accompanied by good moral principles.

Lowell R. Westfall, the son of James and Eliza (Cole) Westfall, was born February 28, 1878, in Gibson county, Indiana. James A. Westfall was born in Harrison county, Indiana, about ten miles from Corydon, on December 21, 1838, the son of Stephen and Margaret Westfall. Stephen Westfall was reared in Kentucky and after his marriage became one of the pioneer settlers of Harrison county, Indiana, where his death occurred in 1875, at the age of eighty years, while his wife's death occurred on October 27, 1888, at the advanced age of ninety-two. James A. Westfall attended the old log school house in Harrison county and lived there until 1865, when he was married and moved to Patoka township, this county. In 1875 he bought his present farm in Patoka township, and he has brought this tract to a high state of cultivation. To Mr. and Mrs. James Westfall were born four children: Nettie J., who is still under the parental roof; Orus M., a farmer in Patoka township, who married Oma Gambriel, and has three children, Grace,



Roy and Ralph; Lowell R., the immediate subject of this sketch, and Irene, who is still at home with her parents.

Lowell R. Westfall was educated in the common schools of this county and worked on his father's farm until he was twenty-one years of age. While working on the old home farm he learned all those habits of industry and diligence which have brought him his success in after life. Mr. Westfall married early in life and his excellent wife, Mary F. McCarty, the daughter of William and Lucinda B. (Kendall) McCarty, has indeed been a most faithful and efficient wife and mother. Following their marriage on August 14, 1898, they immediately went to work on the farm and each has contributed very materially to the success which has been the result of their united efforts. Although Mrs. Westfall inherited ninety-one and one-half acres of land from her father, they started out with nothing and even went into debt for the farming tools and horses with which they raised their first crop. Within five years after their marriage they felt themselves able to purchase fifty-seven more acres of land, and in less than three years they had it all paid for. On this farm of one hundred and forty-eight and one-half acres Mr. Westfall carries on a diversified system of farming, raising all the crops which are peculiar to this section of the country. They have an attractive home, good and substantial outbuildings and the farm is well fenced and drained. Mr. Westfall is very frank to say that his wife has been of great help to him in his undertakings and deserves a full share of the credit for their success.

William McCarty, the father of Mrs. Westfall, died in 1900. He was one of Princeton's best known and esteemed citizens. He was a member of the firm of McCarty Brothers, liverymen, and was an energetic, careful business man who numbered his friends by the scores. He was a consistent member of the White church. His wife is still living in Princeton.

Mr. Westfall is a Republican in his political views, but has never asked for any political favors at the hands of his party. He has devoted all of his efforts and energies to the cultivation and improvement of his farm. Mr. and Mrs. Westfall are both members of the Cumberland church at Bethel, and are liberal supporters of all the various activities of that denomination. They have two children, Harvey, born December 7, 1899, and George W., both of whom are still in school.

Mr. Westfall is a fine type of the American farmer, who has gained his success by the application of uprightness and integrity in all things which he undertakes. He is actuated by the highest motives, and his vigorous mental

powers and devotion to his home have endeared him to a wide circle of friends and acquaintances. He is a genial and unassuming man, modest in his demeanor and never misses the opportunity to help a neighbor in time of distress. Such people as Mr. and Mrs. Westfall are a blessing to the community in which they live.

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### HENRY REMBE.

The German nation has furnished thousands of good citizens for the state of Indiana and Gibson county has been fortunate to count a number of these as a part of her body politic. The descendants of these early German settlers in Indiana are characterized by the same thrift and economy which made their fathers the leading farmers and business men of the various communities in which they settled. Henry Rembe, one of the leading farmers and stockmen of Center township, Gibson county, Indiana, is a worthy descendant of one of Gibson county's early German settlers, and during his life of more than fifty years in this county he has so conducted himself as to win the commendation of his fellow citizens in every way.

Henry Rembe was born March 22, 1860, in Princeton, Indiana, the son of Louis and Christiana Rembe. Both of his parents were born in Germany, and came to this country early in its history, first settling in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Louis Rembe was born August 19, 1825, in Sheffield, Germany, and his wife, Christiana Rembe, was born December 28, 1823, in Kronstadt. Louis Rembe was a weaver by trade and followed that occupation in Philadelphia for a time. Later the family came to Princeton, Indiana, where Louis Rembe worked at different occupations. He helped to build the old jail, several churches and various buildings in Princeton, and always found plenty of work to do because he was a man who could always be depended upon to give good service to his employer. About 1865, Louis Rembe bought his first land in Center township, where Henry Rembe now lives. The farm was poorly improved and was only partially cleared, but he started in to clear and improve the place and make it remunerative. As he prospered he added to his land holdings and at one time owned three hundred and four acres of valuable land in the county. He was a Democrat, but never aspired to office, while religiously all of the family have been members of the German Lutheran church. His wife died February 26, 1904, and he passed away

March 13, 1903, at the advanced age of seventy-eight years. Louis Rembe and wife were the parents of six children: Lewis, deceased; Sophia, the wife of Martin DeWeise, of Francisco, Indiana; Charles, a farmer of Center township; Henry, with whom this narrative deals; Lottie, the wife of Fred Logankamp, a farmer of Warrington, Indiana; and William, a farmer of Center township.

Henry Rembe was given a very limited education, having to work from earliest boyhood on the farm in order to help support the family. However, he has been a wide reader and close observer of men and events all his life, and is now one of the best informed men in his township on current events. He lived at home until his parents' death taking care of them in their old age.

Mr. Rembe was married April 26, 1899, to Barbara Keil, of Evansville, the daughter of Bernhart and Elizabeth B. (Steiner) Keil, who were natives of Germany. Bernard Keil was born in Merlenbach Hassen Darmstadt, Germany, in 1825 and died February 19, 1879. His wife, Elizabeth B. Keil, was born in Germany in Oberstinfield Oberant, Marbach Konig, Riech Wittenburg, in 1836. They were married in Princeton on September 24, 1861. Her parents came to America early in the history of the county and settled in Princeton, where Mr. Keil worked in a flouring mill, but later engaged in farming. Later in life Mr. Keil purchased a home in Evansville, Indiana, and worked as an engineer and fireman in Heilman's foundry for fifteen years. He died in that city, leaving his widow, who is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Keil were the parents of three children who grew to maturity, Barbara, the wife of Mr. Rembe; Mary, deceased, and Kate. Mr. and Mrs. Rembe have three children, Elizabeth C., Bernhart Henry and George Jacob.

Mr. Rembe has been a Democrat through conviction and interested in the success of his party, but has never been an aspirant for any public office. He and his wife are members of the German Lutheran church and give it their support in such a way as to actively identify themselves with the church life of their community. Mr. Rembe has always been a hard worker and now has reached a position where he can take life easy. He has a fine new brick home, which is modern in every respect. The old home was a large two story building and was destroyed by fire November 29, 1912. His farm is finely improved with good barns and outbuildings and he has the satisfaction of seeing his land net him a handsome return each year. He has attained to his present position solely through his own efforts and deserves credit for the fine home which he has made for himself and family. He is a man of domestic tastes and likes nothing better than to sit around his own

fireside. His wholesome life in this county and the friendly treatment which he has always accorded his friends and neighbors has won him the esteem of all with whom he comes into contact.

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S. R. DAVIS.

The career of the well-known gentleman whose name forms the caption of this biographical review has been a strenuous and varied one, entitling him to honorable mention among the representative citizens of his day and generation in the county with which his life is so closely identified. Although his life record is nearing its close by the inevitable fate that awaits all mankind, his influence still pervades the lives of a wide circle of friends and acquaintances who delight to know him. As public official, soldier or private citizen, he has been always true to himself and his fellow men, and the tongue of calumny has never touched him. As a soldier he proved his loyalty to the government he loved so well on the long and tiresome marches in all kinds of situations, on the tented field and amid the flames and smoke of battle, where the rattle of musketry, mingled with the terrible concussion of the bursting shell and the deep diapason of the cannon's roar, made up the sublime but awful chorus of death. To such as he the country is under a debt of gratitude which it cannot repay and, in centuries yet to be, posterity will commemorate their chivalry in fitting eulogy and tell their deeds in story and song.

S. R. Davis, one of the few old veterans left in Gibson county, was born December 5, 1840, in Jefferson county, Indiana, and is the son of Benjamin and Sylvia (Royce) Davis, and to these parents were born seven children, of which number the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth. All of these children are deceased except the subject and one sister, Mrs. Sarah J. Fish, of Patoka.

S. R. Davis was reared in Jefferson and Jennings counties, Indiana, where he received a meager education, which was about all that was given in those early days in this section. In the little old log school house which he attended he sat on the old wooden benches with pegs for legs; the desks were wide boards fixed around the edge of the wall. The school house in which he secured his elementary education in Jefferson county had the old-fashioned fire place at one end of the room. It may be that it was laboring against such disadvantages that has given him those qualities which have brought him

success in after life. His parents moved to Gibson county during the days of the Civil War, and a short time afterward Mr. Davis enlisted in Company G, One Hundred and Forty-fifth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served for nearly one year in the army. Since he did not enlist until February 4, 1865, he did not see much active service at the front, most of his time being spent doing guard duty. He was mustered out of service January 21, 1866. After being mustered out he came back to Gibson county and bought a small farm in Center township. At this time it was largely timber land and he had to go to work at once to clear up the ground in order to raise his first crop. He constructed a rude log house and log barn and went to work with a will. After working on this farm for two years he went to Francisco, where he remained until January, 1885, when he went back on the farm and again engaged in its operation. In 1889 he moved back to Francisco, where he has since resided.

Mr. Davis was married August 31, 1862, to Priscilla P. Lewis, the daughter of C. R. and Maria (Bacon) Lewis. This union has been blessed with six children, only one of whom is living, L. M. Davis, who is a telegraph operator and merchant at Marengo. The five children who have passed away are Leweldo E., Benny O., C. R., Franklin H. and Jesse F.

Mr. Davis has been a life long Democrat, and has always taken an active interest in politics. He was justice of the peace for fifteen years, 1873 until 1888, and in 1896 he was elected county commissioner of Gibson county on the fusion ticket. The fact that he was elected on the fusion ticket shows his remarkable popularity throughout the county. Nothing could better illustrate his sterling qualities of character, as it takes a strong character to win out on a fusion ticket, and his election as such shows that he has built up his reputation for square dealing throughout the whole county. He and his family are loyal and faithful members of the General Baptist church and are deeply interested in the various activities of that denomination.

Mr. Davis is one of those citizens who has surrounded himself with large landed and personal property. However, he has done all this by his own efforts, having been compelled to start out with practically nothing. He has overcome all disadvantages and discouragements and has made an exceptional success in life, and in his old age has the gratification of knowing that the community in which he has resided has been benefited by his presence. His keen business ability is shown by the fact that he has been president of the Francisco State Bank for nearly five years. He is one of the best known and highly respected farmers and business men of the county, and has at-

tained this success by simple means and the exercise of the ordinary qualities of common sense and perseverance. His honorable life has been an inspiration to the present generation, and in the consideration of the prominent citizens of Gibson county, a review of his career should find a conspicuous place in such a biographical volume.

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### THOMAS M. MAXAM.

Self-assertion is believed by many people to be absolutely necessary to success in life, and there are good reasons for the entertainment of such belief. The modest man very rarely gets what is due him. The selfish, aggressive man elbows his way to the front, takes all that is in sight and it sometimes seems that modesty is a sin, with self-denial as the penalty. There are, however, exceptions to all rules and it is a matter greatly to be regretted that the exceptions to the conditions are not more numerous. One notable exception is the case of the honorable gentleman whose life history we here present, who possesses just a sufficient amount of modesty to be a gentleman at all times and yet sufficient persistency to win in the business world and at the same time not appear over bold. As a result of these well and happily blended qualities Mr. Maxam has won a host of friends in Gibson county, where he is well known to all classes as a man of influence, integrity and business ability, and as a public official he has given universal satisfaction because of his strict attention to his duties.

Thomas M. Maxam, the son of John S. and Patsy (Mattingly) Maxam, was born in Gibson county, near Maxam Station, on February 26, 1847. John S. Maxam was a native of Connecticut, and his wife of Spencer county, Indiana. The grandfather of Thomas M. Maxam came from New York to this state in the beginning of the last century, and was associated for some years with Judge William Prince, who was afterwards a congressman from this district. The grandfather settled on a farm near Princeton at Maxam Station, and, so the story goes, the first tree which he cut down was a sassafras from which he made a feed trough. John S. Maxam came to this state when he was seven years of age and lived on the farm which was entered by his father until his death in 1872.

Thomas M. Maxam was educated in the district schools of his township, and later took a course in music at Chicago. Following this he taught music

for five years, and is still a music composer of note. For ten years he was a section foreman on the railroad which ran through Gibson county. He has always taken an active interest in politics, and as a Republican was elected trustee of Center township in 1904. He filled this office with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of the community, taking an active interest in the building up of the schools and the construction of highways throughout the township. He was also elected justice of the peace for several terms and filled this important office with distinction. He has always been known as a man of sterling honesty and because of his good common sense, his counsels have been frequently sought by his fellow citizens. His worth as a citizen was recognized by President Roosevelt by appointing him postmaster of Francisco, in which position he has given such universal satisfaction that he has held the office from the time of his appointment up to the present time.

Mr. Maxam was married on March 29, 1874, to Eliza Hiley, the daughter of John and Lavina (Crist) Hiley, both of whom are natives of Indiana. This marriage has been blessed with seven children: Mrs. Loretta Subling, who lives on a farm in Gibson county; Adrian H., a school teacher and attorney living at Boonville, Indiana; Mrs. Gertrude Klusmeier, who lives on a farm in this county; Mrs. Estella Bruce, a resident also of this county; Corliss, who is at present principal of the high school at Marengo; Stanley C., who married Ethel McGrew and is still at home; Fannie, the youngest of the family, who graduated from the Francisco high school in the spring of 1914.

Fraternally, Mr. Maxam is a valued member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Francisco, and also of the Tribe of Ben-Hur, of the same place. He is secretary of the Ben-Hur lodge at the present time. He and his family are loyal and earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Francisco, and are liberal supporters of that denomination, and take an active interest in all the affairs of the church.

Mr. Maxam has always been a hard worker and an industrious man, and as a result every mile post of the years he has passed has found him further advanced, more prosperous and with an increased number of friends. In the community in which he has lived for so many years, his influence is felt among his fellow men and he has earned a name for enterprise and integrity which justifies him being accorded a place among the representative citizens of Gibson county. He is a straightforward, unassuming, obliging and genial man and enjoys the confidence and respect of a wide circle of friends and acquaintances throughout the county.

## THOMAS H. FRENCH.

The occupation of farming, to which the entire business life of Thomas H. French, one of the well known and popular citizens of Gibson county, has been devoted, is the oldest pursuit of a livelihood of mankind and the one in which he will ever be the most independent. His name has long been connected with the general growth of Gibson county, of which he is a native and where his entire life has been passed. While primarily attending to his own interests, his life has been largely devoted to his fellow man, having been untiring in his efforts to inspire a proper respect for law and order and ready at all times to uplift humanity along civic and social lines.

Thomas H. French, one of the leading farmers and influential citizens of White River township, Gibson county, Indiana, was born in this county on June 2, 1860, and is the son of Lucius S. and Margaret (Jerauld) French, both of whom were natives of Gibson county. The parents of Lucius French were among the earliest settlers of the county, having come here in 1818 and obtained a tract of land which they cleared and converted into a homestead, now known as the old French farm. This was about one mile north of the town of Patoka. Here their son Lucius was born and raised and in this same neighborhood was the family of Jerauld whose daughter, Margaret, Lucius French married, and they became the parents of the immediate subject of this sketch. Lucius French died April 17, 1886, and his wife lived until 1903, having passed her entire life in Gibson county. Lucius French's father was a leading man in his community in his day, being considered one of the most progressive citizens. In the year 1836 he built the first two-story brick residence in the county and in the year 1840 he built a large bank barn, the timbers of which were so heavy that it required the efforts of seventy-five men to raise the structure. Both this house and barn are still standing in an excellent state of preservation, due to the care exercised in selecting the materials going into their construction, the size of the timbers much surpassing anything in use today.

Thomas H. French was the third child in a family of nine children and received his schooling in the district schools of the county. When quite young, he commenced assisting with the work around the farm and remained at home until the age of twenty-six years, when he was united in marriage with Mary E. Daugherty on September 1, 1886. She is the daughter of Joseph and Kate (Rhardon) Daugherty, both natives of Ireland, who had settled in Gibson county a number of years before. At the beginning of the



Civil War, Joseph Daugherty enlisted for service. To Thomas H. French and wife have been born six children, namely: Eunice, Mary, Isabell, Grace, Laura and Elizabeth, all of whom except Mary are at home, though Isabelle is engaged in teaching in the public schools. Mary is the wife of Ray Watson.

Mr. French and his family reside on his farm of one hundred and forty acres of finely located land, adjoining the corporation line of the town of Patoka and here he engages in general farming, paying especial attention to the raising of melons for the market. In this branch of agriculture he has been engaged for the past twenty years, increasing his efforts from year to year, until he now has about sixty acres in melons each year and for the last three years he has been raising quite a number in hot beds. He has made for himself quite a reputation in this line of endeavor and has been eminently successful.

Politically, Mr. French gives his support to the Progressive party, while his religious membership is with the Presbyterian church in whose welfare he is sincerely interested. His fraternal affiliation is with the Tribe of Ben-Hur and the Modern Woodmen of America.

Mr. French is numbered among the progressive agriculturists and public spirited citizens of this county and is one of the substantial men of his community. Endowed by nature with strong mental powers and possessing the courage and energy to direct his faculties in the proper channels, he early became a man of resourceful capacity, as the management of his affairs testifies. He has met every issue of life squarely and his life-long residence here has placed him high in the estimation of all who know him by reason of his sterling worth.

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#### D. H. SWAN, M. D.

Professional success results from merit. Frequently in commercial life one may come into possession of a lucrative business through inheritance or gift, but in what are known as the learned professions advancement is gained only through painstaking and long-continued effort. Prestige in the healing art is the outcome of strong mentality, close application, thorough mastery of its great underlying principles and the ability to apply theory to practice in the treatment of diseases. Good intellectual training, thorough professional knowledge and the possession and utilization of the qualities and attributes essential to success have made the subject of this sketch eminent in

his chosen calling and he stands today among the scholarly and enterprising physicians in a county noted for the high order of its medical talent.

Dr. D. H. Swan, the son of Daniel H. and Ruth (Cumelsham) Swan, was born September 30, 1868, in Harrison county, Indiana, both of his parents being natives of that county also. His boyhood days were spent in his native county, where he attended the country schools and laid the foundation for his future career. After finishing his elementary education in Harrison county, he entered the Southern Indiana Normal at Mitchell, Indiana, where he continued his work in the higher branches. He then went to Danville, Indiana, and entered the Central Normal College, from which he graduated in 1890. He had taught some before graduation, and upon his graduation from the Normal School at Danville, he came to Gibson county and taught in this county in Washington and White River townships for six years. He was rapidly building up his reputation as a successful teacher, when he decided to leave the profession and study medicine. With this end in view he entered the medical college at Louisville, Kentucky, in the fall of 1896, and took the full four years' course in that institution, graduating in the spring of 1900, after which time he returned to Gibson county and opened his office for practice at Mackey, where he remained for a period of three months. Francisco seeming to offer a better opportunity for advancement in his profession, he moved to that place in the fall of 1900, and there he has continued to reside until the present time. He rapidly built up a large and lucrative practice and was gaining a reputation for thorough and conscientious work in dealing with all kinds of diseases. He became a stockholder in the State Bank at Francisco, and in 1908 he was elected president of the bank. Preceding his election to the presidency of the bank he served four years as trustee of Center township on the Democratic ticket, during which time he gave universal satisfaction throughout the township for his excellent administrative qualities. At the expiration of his term of office as trustee he was induced to become the cashier of the bank of Francisco, but held that position for only one year, and in the beginning of the year 1910 he resumed the practice of medicine and has continued uninterruptedly in the profession since that date.

Doctor Swan was married November 8, 1898, to Florence C. Worth, the daughter of Charles and Caroline Worth, of Oakland City, and to this union have been born three children, Ruth, now a junior in the high school at Francisco, Jean and Gladys. Dr. Swan is one of the charter members of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, No. 814, at Francisco, and also a member of the Tribe of Ben-Hur, of the same town.

Doctor Swan is devoted to the noble work which his profession implies, and has not only earned a due reward from his efforts in a temporal way, but has also proven himself eminently worthy to exercise the important functions of his calling by reason of his ability, his abiding sympathies and his earnest zeal in behalf of his fellow men. His understanding of the science of medicine is regarded by those who know him as being broad and comprehensive, and the profession and the public accord him a distinguished place among the practicing physicians of his county. As a physician, as a public official and as a business man, he has proven true to the trusts imposed upon him. In his every relation of life he has never fallen below the dignity of true manhood, nor in any way resorted to methods that have invited censure.

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#### J. W. FINCH.

Among the families of Gibson county, Indiana, whose members have worthily discharged their duties to their fellows and their communities, no family takes higher rank than the Finches, several representatives of whom are today prominently identified with the business and social life of Center township. For many years members of this family have stood for all that is best in business, educational, moral or social life and have wielded an influence that has been potential in the development and welfare of their community, being numbered among the enterprising and progressive citizens of the county. Because of the prominence which the family has enjoyed and the close relations they have sustained to the welfare and prosperity of the locality which has been honored by their citizenship, they are eminently entitled to representation in a work of the character of the one at hand.

J. W. Finch, the son of George W. and Martha P. (Smith) Finch, was born September 11, 1878, in Gibson county, Indiana. His father, George W. Finch, was a native of Posey county, as was his mother. Early in life he came to Gibson county, where he lived the remainder of his life on a farm four miles south of Francisco, near the old Providence church. To Mr. and Mrs. George W. Finch were born fifteen children, twelve of whom are still living and the heads of families. George W. Finch died January 20, 1910, and his widow passed away three days later on February 1, 1910, their funerals being held at the same time and both being buried in the same grave. They would have celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary if they had

lived until 1912. They were earnest and faithful members of the Providence church for more than fifty years and always took an active interest in all the work of the church.

J. W. Finch was the youngest child of his father's family. He received his education in the district schools of Gibson county and later attended the high school at Francisco. After finishing his education at Francisco, he started teaching in his home township, and taught for ten years in the county, in Barton, Union and Center townships. While he was engaged in teaching he attended Vincennes University for three years, in order to better prepare himself for the teaching profession. He was very successful as a teacher and was fast building up the reputation of being one of the best teachers in the county. However, the opportunity presented itself for engaging in the banking business, and after due deliberation he decided that he would leave the teaching profession and go into the banking business. Accordingly he took a business course at the Lockyear Business College at Evansville and entered the Francisco State Bank in July, 1900, as cashier. He is now a stockholder in the bank, and in addition to his banking interests he owns ninety-six acres of land adjoining the town of Francisco. He has called into use in his banking business the same qualities which brought him such excellent success as a teacher, and is already recognized as a very capable banker.

Mr. Finch was married on August 17, 1898, to Estella E. Strown, the daughter of George and Lydia A. (Bruce) Strown, and this union has been blessed with three children, Jessie, born June 8, 1899; Patsy, born March 29, 1902, and Flossie, born August 1, 1904. All of these children are now attending school in their home town.

Politically, Mr. Finch has always been a Democrat, but has never taken a very active part in the deliberations of his party. He belongs to the Providence Primitive Baptist church, of which his father and mother were members for more than fifty years, and takes an intelligent interest in the affairs of this denomination. Mr. Finch is a splendid type of the American business man who is a credit to any community. With his clear head, strong arm and true heart, directed and controlled by correct principles and unerring judgment, he is fast winning his way, not only to pecuniary independence, but what is far superior, the deserving confidence and respect of those with whom he is brought into contact. His residence in this community has brought him a large circle of warm friends and acquaintances, who esteem him because of his excellent qualities of character and his upright business ability.

## GEORGE SCHAFER.

Among the representative men of Francisco, Gibson county, Indiana, there is no one who occupies a more highly respected position than does George Schafer. As a self-made man he stands as a shining example of what can be accomplished by hard, conscientious work and strict attention to his business. The occupation of a blacksmith is as essential to the welfare of any community as that of any other vocation. It is interesting to note that when the United States government made treaties with the Indians throughout the Northwest territory that there was always a provision for three separate men who were to be provided by the government; one was a minister of the Gospel, another a teacher and the third was a blacksmith, and in the welfare of the Indians, it would be hard to say that the blacksmith was the least important of the three.

George Schafer, blacksmith and one of the most public-spirited citizens of Francisco, was born April 4, 1876, in Perry county, Indiana. His parents were Henry and Mary (Stinehall) Schafer, his father being a native of Germany and his mother of Perry county. When Henry Schafer first came to this country he located in Louisville, Kentucky, where he followed the trade of a blacksmith. He is still living in Francisco and although fifty-eight years of age is still able to do a good day's work at the forge. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Schafer were the parents of eight children, seven sons and one daughter, the daughter dying at the age of sixteen years, while the sons are all living.

George Schafer is the oldest of his father's family and was educated in the district schools of Crawford county, Indiana, and when eighteen years of age he entered into the blacksmith business with his father. Within a year, before he was nineteen years of age, he moved to Francisco in Gibson county and engaged in the blacksmith business for himself, and has built up a very lucrative trade. He now has a new shop which is fitted out with every modern convenience which marks the shops of towns of much larger size. In addition to his regular blacksmithing business he does a great amount of wood work. He is endowed with much natural skill and with the addition of his scientific study of the art of blacksmithing he is becoming one of the best known blacksmiths in this section of the state.

Mr. Schafer was married July 24, 1912, to Amanda Brothers, daughter of David and Lucy (Rodgers) Brothers, and to this union there have been

born three children: Horace, born March 2, 1902; Edward, born July 22, 1905, and Clara, born July 24, 1907. Mr. and Mrs. Schafer are giving their children every advantage which the modern schools can furnish them and intend that they shall have the best practical education possible. Mr. Schafer is a citizen who takes an interest in the educational and moral affairs of his town to a marked degree. At present he is a member of the town board and his influence is always on the right side of public questions. He became a charter member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, No. 814, when it was established at Francisco. Politically, he is a Democrat, but never has had the time to take an active part in politics. Mr. and Mrs. Schafer are leading quiet and highly respected lives and are highly honored and esteemed by their neighbors and friends for the praiseworthy lives they are living. They have a very pleasant home in Francisco, where they dispense hospitality to an ever-increasing circle of friends.

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### JOHN H. SHIPP.

Whether the elements of success in life are innate attributes of the individual, or whether they are quickened by a process of circumstantial development, it is impossible to define, yet the study of a successful life, whatever the field of endeavor, is none the less interesting and profitable by reason of the existence of this uncertainty. So much in excess of those of successes are the records of failures or semi-failures that one is constrained to attempt an analysis in either case and to determine the measure of possession in an approximate way. Studying the life history of the well-known teacher and citizen of Gibson county whose name forms the caption of this sketch we find in this young man many qualities which always gain definite success in any career properly directed. It is very evident that he has lived a life of usefulness and one which has resulted in a life of good to others as well, and it is safe to predict that the future holds much in store for him.

John H. Shipp, the superintendent of the Francisco schools, was born August 25, 1885, in Center township, Gibson county, Indiana, the son of David and Mary (Skelton) Shipp, his father's birth having occurred in Cambridge, England, while his mother was a native of this county. David Shipp came to this country when he was sixteen years of age and settled near Maxam's Station, in this county, and has followed agricultural pursuits all his

life. His death occurred October 23, 1912, his wife having passed away several years before on April 5, 1901.

John S. Shipp was educated in the district schools of his county and then, unlike most country boys of his time, he finished a high school course in the town of Francisco. This gave him a taste for more learning, so he enrolled in the State Normal School at Terre Haute, Indiana, from which he later graduated. He also attended Oakland City College and Chicago University at different times in order to equip himself better for an educational career. His first teaching experience was in Center township in his home county, and later he was offered a position in the Francisco high school, which he filled very acceptably, and for the past five years he has been the superintendent of the school from which he graduated only a few years ago. It is often said that a prophet is without honor in his own country, and it is oftentimes true of teachers as well. Therefore, it is to the credit of Mr. Shipp that he is having such fine success in his own home school. During the time that he has had charge of the Francisco school the attendance in high school has increased over one hundred per cent. and the grade teachers have been increased from five to eight in number. When he took charge of this school there was not even a certified course given, but he has brought the work up to such a standard that the state board of education certified it and have recently granted it a commission, which carries with it the right of its graduates to enter any college in the state without an examination.

Mr. Shipp was married November 2, 1908, to Thelda H. Loveless, the daughter of Joseph H. and Lucretia (Hume) Loveless. Joseph Loveless was born September 5, 1865, in Pike county, the son of James K. and Eliza (Rainey) Loveless, both of whom were natives of this state. As a young man Mr. Loveless worked in a coal mine for a few years, and then engaged in the mercantile business, and is still conducting a general store at the town of Francisco. Mr. and Mrs. Loveless were married November 12, 1886, his wife being the daughter of Cornelius and Elizabeth Hume, both natives of Kentucky. Mr. and Mrs. Loveless are the parents of five children, Mrs. Thelda Shipp; Ray V., of Francisco; Mrs. Jennie Chappel, of Francisco; Clifton and Powell. Mr. and Mrs. Loveless are active members of the General Baptist church of Francisco, and Mr. Loveless has been superintendent of the Sunday school at that place for the past thirty years. To Mr. and Mrs. John H. Shipp has been born one daughter, Hazel Naomi, who is now deceased.

Professor Shipp is a Republican in politics and has been interested in



the various political issues which have been advocated by that party. His position as superintendent of the schools has precluded him from taking a very active part in politics, although he is one of the best informed men in his county on political problems. He and his wife are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Francisco and contribute liberally of their means to its support. He is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Lodge No. 814, at Francisco. Mr. Shipp's professorship here has been a busy and useful one and his name is respected by all who have had occasion to come into contact with him, or who have knowledge of his life's work. He has dignified and honored his profession, for his life has been one of consecration to his calling and well does he merit a place of honor in a volume touching upon the lives and deeds of those who have given the best of their time and talent to the betterment of mankind.

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#### JAMES R. MORROW.

No sturdier or better citizens have ever come to our shores than have those sons of Ireland who have made their homes in this country. Fortunate indeed is the community which receives these people and incorporates them in her body politic, for wherever they are found they are always industrious, upright and willing to do their share toward the advancement of the material and moral welfare of the community in which they reside. In the old country they learned those habits of industry which insure success and upon their coming to this country they never fail to bring along those same habits which made them independent in their old home. The United States have no better citizens than these sons of Erin. Gibson county is fortunate in having some of these good people and among them James R. Morrow, the subject of this sketch, occupies a prominent part in the civic life of the community which is honored by his residence.

James R. Morrow, the son of Irish parents, was born in Center township, Gibson county, Indiana, on January 1, 1870. His parents, James and Mary Jane (Speer) Morrow, were both born in Ireland, and came to this state about 1850 and located in Center township, in this county. James Morrow followed the occupation of a farmer all his life, and at his death, which occurred in May, 1910, he had become one of the most prosperous farmers in this locality. To James Morrow and wife were born nine children, James R. being the youngest of the number.



James R. Morrow was educated in the district schools of his neighborhood, and his boyhood was spent in performing all those multitudinous duties which fall to the lot of the average farmer's boy. He attended school in the winter season and assisted on his father's farm in the summers. As a young man he set for himself a definite goal, and his present position in the circles of his community show that he has not labored in vain. He has realized that success means hard work and honest endeavor, and throughout all of his career he has never failed to recognize this fact. With these good qualities ever in mind he has gradually added to his possessions until he now has a fine farm of two hundred and ninety acres in this township. In addition to his agricultural interests he is prominently identified with the Francisco State Bank, of which he is a director and vice president at the present time. He built a beautiful new home of ten rooms in 1911. It is equipped with gas lights and a hot water system. He has made all of the improvements which stand on his farm today. The house is finished in oak which came from the farm.

Mr. Morrow was married on December 12, 1895, to Lettie Arnold, of Pike county, this state, and to this union have been born three children: James L. and Mary H., who are both in the high school at Princeton, Indiana, and Samuel R., the youngest, who is still in the common schools. Mr. Morrow takes a very active interest in the education of his children and intends that they shall receive the best which can be given them. He is a firm believer in education and realizes that in the life of the present day an education is a valuable asset.

In politics Mr. Morrow was a Progressive and allied himself with that party in the fall of 1912. He votes for the best men regardless of their party affiliations. He is well informed on all the public questions of the day and is an interesting conversationalist on the current topics before the people. He and his family are faithful and earnest members of the Presbyterian church and are interested in the various activities which are promoted by that denomination. Mr. Morrow attributes his success to his industry and strict integrity, feeling that without these qualities he would never have attained the position which he holds today. His comfortable station in life is such that he can now devote his time and energies to helping the community at large, and accordingly, every movement which has for its object the bettering of the social and moral life of the community finds in him a ready and sympathetic supporter. The study of the lives of such men as he should be an incentive to the young men whose fortunes and destinies

are yet to be determined. The example of any farmer who can accumulate a farm of two hundred and ninety acres under modern-day conditions is one which is well worth studying. It is a pleasure to record the life of such a citizen, and the province of a volume of this nature is to set forth for coming generations the lives of men who have been as important factors as the subject of this sketch in the development of the community in which they live.

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### JACKSON DEPRIEST.

It is proper to judge of the success of a man's life by the estimation in which he is held by his fellow citizens. They see him at his work, in his family circle, in the church, in the public forum, they observe the operation of his code of morals, witness how he conducts himself in all the relations of society and civilization, and are therefore competent to judge of his merits and his demerits. After a long course of years of such daily observation it would be out of the question for his neighbors not to know his worth. In this connection it is not too much to say that the subject of this sketch has passed a life in his township which has been marked by strict attention to business and a modicum of success which indicates that he has directed his energies along the lines of honest endeavor. As a private citizen and public official he has been accorded definite recognition by the citizens of his township, being now the township assessor, in which position he is rendering efficient and satisfactory service. The mere fact that any citizen holds an office by virtue of the suffrages of his fellow citizens is a sure indication of the esteem in which he is held by the community.

Jackson Depriest, the fourth of seven children, was born July 23, 1858, in Barton township, Gibson county, Indiana, the son of William and Dicy A. (McCleary) Depriest, both of whom were natives of this county also. William Depriest was one of the early settlers of Gibson county, and went through all the struggles incident to the pioneer farmer of the early days of Indiana.

Jackson Depriest was educated in the district schools of his native county and performed all the multitudinous duties which fall to the lot of the ordinary boy on the farm. He has spent all of his life with the exception of the last few years, upon the farm and has built for himself a reputation of being one of the most progressive farmers of his township. On his

well improved farm of one hundred and thirty acres he has excellent buildings and has brought it to a high state of cultivation. He carries on a diversified system of farming, raising all the crops which are common to this section of the state. In addition to his general crops, he also raises considerable live stock.

Politically, Mr. Depriest has been a life-long Democrat and has been rewarded by his party by being elected township assessor, an office which he is now holding to the entire satisfaction of the citizens of the township. Previous to his election as township assessor, he had been deputy for two years, so that he went into the office well qualified and equipped to discharge the duties of that important position.

Mr. Depriest was married August 2, 1879, to Ellen Colinger, and to this union have been born six children, Mrs. Delta King, who lives on a farm in Center township, has one child, Fay; Mrs. Stella Mahon, whose husband is a farmer in Center township; Otto, who is married and lives in Princeton, and has one child, Cloyd; Homer, who lives on his father's farm in Center township. Mrs. Depriest is a faithful and earnest member of the Regular Baptist church of Providence, and contributes liberally to the various activities of the church. They are firm believers in the great amount of good which can be accomplished by the church and lend themselves willingly to all movements which have for their purpose the bettering of the moral, civic and social life of the community in which they live. They have a hospitable home and number their friends and acquaintances by the score. Mr. Depriest has never allowed the multitudinous activities of his life to warp his kindly nature, but has preserved his warmth of heart for the broadening and helpful influences of human life, being a kindly, genial man and a gentleman whom it is a pleasure to meet.

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#### WILLIAM A. WHEELER.

Among the old and representative families of Gibson county there are none who hold a more prominent place than does the Wheeler family. Coming to this county early in its history, they have seen it emerge from a primitive wilderness to a farming community which is second to none in the state. They were among those who drained its swamps, cleared its forests and built the highways which connect the fine farms scattered throughout

the length and breadth of the county. They are of that class of early settlers who had to battle with the ague and miasma of the swamps and all of those ills which surrounded the farmer of pioneer times. Too much credit cannot be given these sturdy forefathers of ours who have made it possible for us to enjoy the comforts which surround us on every hand today. A scion of one of these pioneer families is William A. Wheeler, and one of the most prominent farmers of the county.

William A. Wheeler, son of Charles W. and Mary A. (Karn) Wheeler, was born September 4, 1809, in Gibson county, Indiana. Charles W. Wheeler was a native of this county, while his wife came from Crawford county, Indiana. Charles Wheeler was one of the earliest settlers of the county and has been engaged in farming all his life. He is still living and resides near Princeton, this county. Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Wheeler were the parents of nine children, the subject of this sketch being the second in order of birth.

William A. Wheeler received his early education in the district schools of his home neighborhood, and although his early education was limited, he has been a reader all his life and keeps himself well informed upon all the current topics of the day. That he has kept himself well posted on all affairs, particularly those pertaining to agriculture, is evidenced by the fact that he is the owner of three hundred and thirty acres of fine land in this county. This farm he has brought to a high state of cultivation and has always believed in keeping it well stocked with all the latest farming machinery. In addition to being engaged in a diversified system of farming and raising all those crops common to this locality, he makes a specialty of breeding Hereford cattle. He has as fine a herd of Herefords as can be found in the state and takes a great deal of pride in keeping it to a high standard of excellence. He has a beautiful home, substantial barn and other outbuildings on his place and enjoys all the modern conveniences of life.

Mr. Wheeler has been twice married, his first wife being Ellen Griffin, of this county, to whom he was married in August, 1892, and to this union there was one child born, Ralph, who is living with his father on the farm. His second marriage was to Cora Utley, the daughter of Lewis and Jane Utley, to whom he was married on July 3, 1898, and to this union there have been born three children, Pearl and Claud, who are at home, and Roy, deceased. In his home life, Mr. Wheeler is an ideal father and husband and is always solicitous for the happiness of his wife and children.

Mr. Wheeler is a Republican in politics, but has never sought any political office at the hands of his party. He has devoted all of his time and at-

tention towards his private interests, although he takes an intelligent interest in the deliberations of his party. He and his family are faithful adherents of the Presbyterian church, and take an active interest in the various departments of work in that denomination. They realize that the church is an important factor in the life of any community, and for this reason take advantage of every opportunity to ally themselves with any movement which has for its end the raising of the moral and religious life of their community. Mr. Wheeler's record has been one replete with duty well done and conscientiously performed. In every relation of life he has been an advocate of wholesome living and clean politics and has always tried to stand for the highest and best interests of his community and the fact that he is held in high esteem by his neighbors shows that he has not labored in vain. He is a credit to the honored family from which he is descended and will have the satisfaction of handing down to his children the record of a life which has been well spent in the service of his community.

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#### JOHN F. MEADE.

Gibson county has been fortunate in the number and character of its farmers and much of the material prosperity of the county can be attributed to the fact that its farmers have kept abreast of the times. It can hardly be questioned that the farmer is an index to the civilization of any community. If the farmers are progressive and up-to-date it follows that the standard of living in that community will be high. Thousands of banks have been organized within the last few years in order to supply the needs of the farmer, and according to one authority, the farmer and his crop furnish the bulk of the money for most of the smaller banks throughout the United States. The wholesome living which is the good fortune of the farmer is a big factor in keeping up the general tone of a county. The business men of the towns are drawing the men for their employes from the country and everywhere it is noticed that the men who are rising to prominence in the various activities of life were born and reared on the farm. Gibson county has long been known as one of the very best farming counties of the state, and its excellent farmers have been one of the biggest factors in the material advancement of the county. Among the many excellent agriculturists of Gibson county there is no one who stands higher in the estimation of his

fellow citizens than does the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this review.

John F. Meade was born in this county, near Owensville, June 25, 1862, the son of John S. and Minerva (Yeager) Meade, who were also natives of this county. His father was a life-long farmer and served as county commissioner at the time when the present court house was built. He is still living at the advanced age of eighty-six years, his wife's death occurring August 14, 1911. To Mr. and Mrs. John S. Meade were born ten children, the subject of this sketch being the fourth child in order of birth.

John F. Meade was educated in the district schools of his home neighborhood and also took a course in the Francisco high school. He took advantage of his opportunities, applying himself closely to his educational training, so that he became a teacher in his township schools for three terms, and in this profession he proved very successful and no doubt would have had a long and useful career had he chosen to follow that vocation. However, the call of the farm resounded in his ears and feeling that he would prefer an agricultural career to the profession of teaching, he engaged in farming, and in this line of endeavor he has proven very successful, and is now the owner of one hundred and fifty-five acres of fine farming land in Center township. This land he has brought to a high state of cultivation, and with all the modern improvements which he has put on this farm, it is now considered as one of the most valuable farms in the county for its acreage.

Mr. Meade was married on June 24, 1885, to Jessie C. Whiting, the daughter of Captain C. C. and Louisiana (Craig) Whiting, both natives of Posey county, this state. Captain Whiting is referred to in the military history elsewhere. To Mr. and Mrs. Meade has been born one child, Florence, who was married in August, 1913, to Floyd Loper, one of the high school teachers in Francisco; they are living in Francisco at the present time.

Mr. Meade has been a life-long Republican in politics and always takes an active interest in the councils of his party. His worth as a man and citizen was recognized by his party and he was nominated on the Republican ticket for township assessor and was elected in due time. He has now held this office for six years, and has given universal satisfaction. He and his wife are faithful and earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Francisco. They are deeply interested in the welfare of their community, and any movement which has for its end the bettering of the moral or civic welfare of their immediate locality finds in them ready and sympathetic helpers. Mr. Meade gives his unreserved support to the various

enterprises of his community which seek to elevate the moral tone of its members, and by his straightforward and upright dealings in all of his affairs, he has gained for himself a sound reputation for square and honest dealings.

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### SAMUEL H. LAWRENCE.

It matters much less where geographically a man comes into the world than how he comes into its life as a living force, or what he does and becomes in it. Heredity and environment have much to do in conditioning his character and power, and fortunate indeed is the individual who has been well born and whose surroundings have made for his best development. The well-known subject of this sketch has been peculiarly blessed in both these respects. He comes from old and highly esteemed ancestors and was reared under excellent home influences, the result being the fine specimen of manhood and citizenship which he today represents.

Samuel H. Lawrence, the son of Solomon M. and Mary E. (Clark) Lawrence, was born in Gibson county, Indiana, March 12, 1851. His father was a native of Ohio and settled in this state in 1833 on the same farm now owned by his son Samuel. He took an active part in the development of this section of this county, and was a true pioneer of his day. He experienced all the vicissitudes and hardships of life in a new country, and at his death, on December 22, 1879, he was missed by a large number of his fellow men as a man who had discharged his every duty in such a manner as to be worthy of the confidence and esteem with which he was universally held. His widow survived him many years and did not pass away until March 30, 1904. Mr. and Mrs. Solomon M. Lawrence were the parents of a large family of eight children: William C., a mail carrier, living in Princeton, Indiana; Mrs. Sarah E. Stormont, deceased; Samuel H., the subject of this sketch; C. W., who lives at Princeton; Mrs. Anna A. Davison, of Princeton; Mrs. Nancy E. Hudelson, widow, whose husband was a farmer in Center township, Gibson county; and Mrs. Armilda J. Mahan, who lives with her father on the old home place. Her husband, Thomas Mahan, to whom she was married in 1889, died in July, 1890, leaving one son, Lawrence; the eighth and youngest child is Hugh T., who lives on a farm in Center township, Gibson county.

Samuel H. grew to manhood with a proper conception of life's responsi-

bilities. Reared in close touch with nature, in the fields and woods and farm, at an early age accustomed to manual labor, he developed while still a young man a strong and vigorous physique which, with a naturally keen and alert mind, subsequently made him a fine specimen of manhood. During his childhood and youth he attended the public schools of his neighborhood and when the time came to choose a vocation, he decided to become a tiller of the soil, which honorable and useful calling he has since followed with satisfactory financial results. He worked on his father's farm until he was about thirty-two years of age, when he bought a farm of eighty acres in Center township. He continued to operate this farm until his father's death, when he later sold it and bought a half interest in the old home place.

He has never been married, his widowed sister and her son having lived with him for the past twenty-five years. On his fine farm of one hundred acres he carries on a diversified system of farming, and raises abundantly all the crops grown in this part of Indiana. He is very much interested in keeping everything on his farm in first class condition, a fact which bespeaks well for the industry and energy of the owner.

In politics he is affiliated with the Progressive party and keeps well informed on all the questions of the day. He is a member of the United Presbyterian church, and contributes freely of his means to the support of that denomination. As a neighbor he is kindly disposed and accommodating and his influence at all times has made for good among those with whom he has been thrown in contact. He is essentially a practical man, sound in judgment and well endowed with that most excellent quality known as good common sense. His integrity, personal honor and high character have won him a conspicuous place in the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens.

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### THOMAS M. PALMER.

The life of the early pioneers of Indiana is always interesting to the modern generation. To the men who were born in the thirties and are still living at the present time, the life of today must present strange contrasts to the life which they lived as boys. Thomas M. Palmer, the subject of this sketch, who was born January 19, 1832, in Vanderburg county, this state, is one of the oldest pioneers now living in Gibson county. His parents were William and Mary (Miller) Palmer, and they came from the East to this state. His father was the first blacksmith in the town of Evansville. When



Thomas was a small lad of two or three years of age his father, while raising a log for their cabin home, slipped and broke his leg, from which accident he never recovered and his death occurred shortly afterwards, leaving his widow with six children.

Thomas M. Palmer received what little education the schools of that primitive time afforded and can describe very entertainingly the queer old log cabin which then was used as a school house. With its log seats and writing desks tacked to the wall, it was a primitive structure indeed, and yet with the light streaming through the greased paper windows and with the goose quill pen, these forefathers of ours learned to write much better than many of the boys and girls of our schools today. It is related that Jonathan Jennings, the first governor of the state in 1816, wrote such a fine hand that his letters were saved by the school teachers throughout southern Indiana and used as window panes, so that the pupils might have the writing of the governor as a model to follow. Mr. Palmer has related to the historians of this volume many interesting incidents of the early days in Indiana. He has one interesting story of a "coon" hunt; when he reached a tree and fired into the top of the branches, he brought three "coons" out of the tree at one shot.

As a young man Thomas M. Palmer worked at the plastering trade for several years and upon saving one hundred dollars went to Evansville to seek his fortune. Here he entered into partnership with a man by the name of Riley in the buying of poultry and this business proved to be very successful. He followed this line for several years and finally went into the raising of sheep. Here he was equally successful and continued to conduct this business for several years. In the meantime he began to acquire land, and in the course of time was the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of good land in Center township, in this county. In addition he has accumulated town property in Francisco, and has interests in several of the banks of the county.

Mr. Palmer was twice married, first to Rosann Gore, a native of the Hoosier state, whose death occurred April 9, 1867. On February 17, 1868, he was again married to Mary A. Heaps, the daughter of Golden and Elizabeth Heaps, who were natives of England, but had come to this state early in its history.

Politically, Mr. Palmer has been a life-long Democrat and is one of the oldest voters in the county. He has never held any office other than road supervisor of his township, and in the several years during which he dis-

charged the duties of this office, he has done very efficient work in fixing up the roads of his township. He and his wife are faithful and earnest members of the Regular Baptist church at Francisco and are active in the discharge of all the obligations which the church demands. For more than twenty years they have lived in Francisco and are enjoying the twilight of their lives surrounded by all the modern conveniences.

Mr. Palmer is one of the few old pioneers left in this county and he is still hale and hearty and able to recall incidents which have happened for the last seventy-five years. The reminiscences of such a man would make an interesting volume for future generations. He is one of the best known men throughout this community and is respected and honored by everyone. Because of his reputation for integrity and his high character, his influence for good in this community has been most potent and in all the relations of life he has commanded the confidence and respect of a long list of friends and acquaintances, and has the satisfaction of knowing that in his old age that the community in which he resides has been benefited by his presence and his counsel. By his long years of hard labor and honest endeavor he has acquired a well-merited material prosperity and richly deserves to pass the remainder of his days in peace and quietness, surrounded by those who love him best.

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#### MILTON McROBERTS.

Gibson county could boast of few more progressive and successful farmers and stock men than the subject of this brief biographical review, who has long been well and favorably known in Washington township, and, in fact, in the entire county of Gibson, having operated excellent farming lands for many years, being considered one of the leading citizens of the community. He is enterprising, neighborly and hospitable, combining within himself those qualities of sterling manhood that make not only a useful member of society, but a man whom any locality might well be delighted to honor. In looking to his individual interests, he has never lost sight of his duty to his fellow men and in many ways has contributed to their well being and happiness, yet all in a quiet, unassuming manner, seeking to do good yet avoiding public display.

Milton McRoberts was born November 25, 1850, in Washington township, Gibson county, Indiana, the son of Artemus Barnard and Indiana

(Lewis) McRoberts. The father was a native of Kentucky, where he was born in 1822, his death occurring in 1895, while the mother was a native of Gibson county, Indiana.

Milton McRoberts' paternal grandfather moved to the state of Ohio about 1823 and settled near Cincinnati and died a few years after locating there. His son, Artemus B., the subject's father, came to the Hoosier state when a young man and settled in Washington township, Gibson county, his brothers having preceded him to this place. Shortly after his arrival in the new community he married and purchased two hundred acres of densely timbered land. His energies were then bent toward hewing a home from this uninviting tract, an enterprise in which he was greatly encouraged by his neighbors, who informed him that he would starve to death, as a great portion of his land was low and wet. However, it seems that Artemus McRoberts knew what he was about, as he paid no attention to these discouragements, going ahead steadily in his battle with the virgin forest, and in time was enabled to laugh at the dismal prophecies of those who had belittled his land, it now constituting one of the best tracts in the county. He was a very successful man in his time, of rather a retiring nature, and although handicapped by the lack of an early education gained from books, his innate common sense and maturely developed judgment made him a man looked up to in his community.

Of a family of nine children, eight sons and one daughter, Milton was the eldest, six of these children yet living. His early youth was spent in Washington township, where he assisted his parents in the work on the home farm. On October 2, 1874, Mr. McRoberts was united in the holy bonds of matrimony to Elizabeth A. Foster, who was born in Gibson county. To this union have been born nine children, as follows: Clarence was educated in the district schools and college and is now teaching at Wheeling, Indiana; James L., who received a similar education, taught school for some time, and was appointed trustee of the township in 1912, when the previous trustee died; John R. is living in Patoka; Edith M. is the wife of Samuel Kolb, of Washington township; Sally G. died July 7, 1889; Ethel F. died December 16, 1890; Cornelia is the wife of Fines Trippet; Louis M. and Edna E. are at home.

Mr. McRoberts has spent his entire life on his farm, which he has developed and cultivated with no small measure of success. He formerly made a specialty of fine stock, his Polled Angus registered cattle being among the best specimens of that sterling breed to be found anywhere.

In 1894 Mr. McRoberts was elected trustee of his township on the Democratic ticket, and in the six years in which he gave his best abilities to that important office there was not the slightest adverse criticism of his conduct of the affairs of that position. During his administration the plan for consolidating the schools was worked out and subsequently adopted.

Mr. McRoberts is deeply interested in the growth and well being of the Union Bethel Presbyterian church in Washington township, in which he has been a deacon and a trustee for several years.

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### REV. WILLIAM L. McROBERTS.

Although his life work has been the noble calling of agriculture, yet the subject of this sketch, William L. McRoberts, has found time in a busy and useful life to do much toward ameliorating the condition of his fellow men, often laboring with disregard for his own welfare if thereby he might attain the object sought—to make some one better and happier. Such a life as his is rare and is eminently worthy of emulation, being singularly free from all that is deteriorating or paltry, for his influence is at all times uplifting, and thousands of people have been made better for having known him.

William L. McRoberts was born August 8, 1837, at Cincinnati, Ohio, the son of David McRoberts, of New York state, and Rebecca (Abbott) McRoberts, of Maryland. The father of David McRoberts, also named David, was an orderly sergeant in the war of 1812 and remained in the East all his life.

Rev. McRoberts' father removed from the Empire state to Ohio after marrying and settled near Cincinnati. In 1840 he left the Queen City and, with his family, came down the Ohio river to Evansville, Indiana, from which point they came overland to Washington township, Gibson county, and here the father purchased land. A younger brother here joined them, he having come from Cincinnati with the horses, driving them through over the rough trails and primitive roads of the time. Twenty years later, in 1860, the family was joined by Reuben, another brother of the father. Reuben's son, David, enlisted in the Union army at the outbreak of the Civil war, and died in the service. Reuben, a brother of David McRoberts, was a member of the Sixty-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, while another brother, Alex-

ander, was attached to the Twenty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. Alexander completed his original term of enlistment of three years and then re-enlisted and served until the close of the war, his term of service covering the entire period of hostilities, as did also that of his brother, Reuben.

David McRoberts spent his life on his farm in Washington township, cultivating his land in seasonable weather and during the winter months working at his trade as a cooper. In this craft he was possessed of great skill, and his talents at that time were devoted to the making of lard pails, there being a great demand for these to be used in shipping down the river to New Orleans. He was a few years over sixty when he died, his death being caused by the bursting of a blood vessel. To Mr. and Mrs. David McRoberts were born twelve children, but two of whom are now living, a number of them dying in infancy, the rest reaching an old age.

William L. McRoberts passed his boyhood days on the home farm, lending a hand to the arduous task of making a wilderness yield forth its best for the support of the hardy pioneers. He secured what education it was possible to obtain in the crude schools of the district at that time, remaining on the home farm until 1861. On February 3, 1861, he was united in marriage to Mary Kirk, of Washington township, Gibson county, the daughter of an old pioneer family in that community, the town of Kirksville having been named in honor of them. To this union were born four children, namely: W. A., of Washington township; Ambrose, of Evansville, Indiana; Ethel, who married Robert M. Keel, a minister of the gospel, and lives in Illinois; David A., who is a minister in Illinois.

The first wife of Mr. McRoberts died in 1907, and he subsequently married Mrs. Rosella Thompson, of Washington township, Gibson county, the daughter of Alexander Bennet, an early settler of this county, who was born in 1800 and died in 1875. His second wife had a daughter, Ethel, by her first marriage, who is now the wife of Henry Troutman, of Washington township.

Mr. McRoberts has followed the vocation of farming practically his entire lifetime, although in his younger days he worked at the cooper's trade with his father. Over thirty years ago the subject entered the ministry and has been preaching to the local Methodist church ever since. Now, at the age of seventy-six years, he is enjoying good health and is as active as many a man of twenty-five years younger.

While never having taken an active interest in political affairs, aside

from the intelligent exercise of his franchise, the subject consented to accept a term of six years in the office of county commissioner, in which position he very creditably acquitted himself.

While agriculture has been Mr. McRoberts' chief life work, he has devoted considerable attention to his duties as a minister of the gospel, being earnest in all he says and does. He is known throughout this locality as one of the leading citizens of a community noted for the high order of its citizenship. He is truly a good and useful man, but he is plain and unassuming, and strives to do his duty at all times, regardless of inconvenience to himself.

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### WILLIS PAULEY.

The people who constitute the bone and sinew of this country are not those who are unstable and unsettled, who fly from one occupation to another, who do not know how to vote until they are told, and who take no active and intelligent interest in the civic affairs of their community. The backbone of this country is made up of the families who have made their homes, who are alive to the best interests of the community, who attend to their own business in preference to the affairs of others, and who work on steadily from day to day, taking the sunshine with the storm, and who rear a fine family to a comfortable home and an honest life. Such people are always welcome in any country and in any community. They are wealth producers, and Gibson county is fortunate in being blessed with many of them, among whom is the subject of this sketch.

Willis Pauley was born October 8, 1868, in Washington township, Gibson county, Indiana, the son of William and Ella (Miller) Pauley, the father having been born in Kentucky in 1833 and dying in Washington township, Gibson county, in 1890, at the age of fifty-seven years, while the mother was a native of Gibson county.

William Pauley came to Gibson county in 1850, when he was about eighteen years of age, and located in Washington township, where he passed his life, reaching a position of honor and respect among his fellow men.

Of a family of five children, Willis was the eldest, and spent his youthful days on the home place, attending the district school and assisting his father in the conduct of the farm. In 1890, however, Willis Pauley struck out for himself and engaged in farming on his own behalf. He purchased

his present home farm in 1905, having disposed of his former property, and now owns one hundred acres of as fine land as can be found in the county. It is all under a high state of cultivation and improved with the most modern and up-to-date farm buildings, which, together with his comfortable home, represents an agricultural plant of which any man might feel proud. Along with general farming, Mr. Pauley raises coach horses, for which he finds a ready market at remunerative prices.

January 26, 1891, Mr. Pauley was united in marriage to Frances Johnson, daughter of Thomas Johnson, of Knox county, Indiana, one of the best known and most prosperous farmers in the state. He is the possessor of two thousand four hundred acres of fine land in Knox county, on which he raises large crops, in addition to marketing about one hundred head of horses annually. On the splendid estate over which he presides he maintains a deer park stocked with sixty head of these beautiful animals.

To Willis Pauley and wife have been born five children: Ethelbert, Pearl, Artie, Willis and Waldo, all of whom are still under the parental roof.

Mr. Pauley is a worthy and representative citizen, having acted well his part in life, and while primarily interested in his own affairs, he has not been unmindful of others, as his efforts to advance the public good and promote the welfare of his fellow men abundantly attest.

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### WILLIAM HYNEMAN.

There could be no more comprehensive history written of a city or county, or even of a state and its people, than that which deals with the life work of those who, by their own endeavor and indomitable energy, have placed themselves where they well deserve the title of "progressive." In this sketch will be found the record of one who has outstripped the less active and less able plodders on the highway of life, one who has not been subdued by the many obstacles and failures that come to every one, but who has made them stepping stones to higher things and at the same time that he was winning his way in material things of life gained a reputation for uprightness and honor.

William Hyneman was born November 11, 1849, in Washington township, Gibson county, Indiana, the son of A. K. and Luzanna (Hargrove) Hyneman, the father being born in the same county and township, where he

died in 1900, in his seventy-ninth year, and the mother a native of White River township. The father of A. K. Hyneman was John Hyneman, who came from Pennsylvania to the Hoosier state over one hundred years ago and located in Washington township, the land which he originally entered being yet in the possession of the family. At the time of his coming to Gibson county there was but one family living between his home and Princeton. Here he continued the rest of his days on the original homestead, dying in his eighty-first year.

A. K. Hyneman spent his entire life on the land originally occupied by his father, developing and improving his holdings until he became the possessor of over four hundred acres of the best land in the community, he being one of the representative men of his time. To A. K. Hyneman and wife were born nine children, namely: John is living in Patoka township; Mary and Isaphina are deceased; William; Lizzie, deceased; Samuel resides on the old homestead; R. A. is living in Pike county; Cynthia resides in Ohio; and Willis, Washington.

William Hyneman's early life was spent on his father's place, he receiving a good education in the district schools. On May 25, 1881, he was married to Mrs. Edith (Price) Thompson, daughter of Amzi Price, of Washington township, who was born in 1810 and died in 1893. Her grandfather, William Price, settled in this county over a century ago, he having emigrated from North Carolina, and Amzi Price continued during his lifetime on the home place.

To William Hyneman and wife have been born six children: Perry, deceased; Minnie, at home; Ora, who married George Decker; Edgar, who died in infancy; Bret and Burtis, at home.

After his marriage, Mr. Hyneman rented land in Pike county, Indiana, where he followed farming for about a year, and then came to Washington township, Gibson county, and purchased land, on which he has continued to reside. This land, which includes a part of the old homestead, has been improved and added to until it now comprises a tract of two hundred acres, and is considered one of the best farms in the county. A number of improvements have been made, among them a splendidly located and comfortable home and good barns and other farm buildings.

Mr. Hyneman has always taken an active and earnest interest in educational matters and served for a number of years on the school board, having been a member when the present Mt. Olympus school was established, it being one of the finest country schools in the United States, having five



teachers. Always a strong advocate of consolidation, Mr. Hyneman has been a leader in all improvements tending to modernize and increase the utility of the educational institutions of his district. Mrs. Hyneman is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church and takes a deep interest in its well-being and effectiveness.

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### JOHN A. ZWISSLER.

Any person who will investigate the facts in the case will be surprised to learn of the great number of people of Germanic nativity and descent now living in the United States. Unquestionably the greatest number of emigrants reaching the shores of the new world comes from that nation, and statistics show that there is more Germanic blood in the United States than any other. This being a fact, it is easy to account for the prosperity and morality of this country. Not only that, but it will afford an explanation for the love of learning shown by the people of this vast nation. Germany is famous the world over for its remarkable universities, for its educated men, for its poets and philosophers, and for the industry, patience, intelligence, morality and sturdiness of its citizens. These qualities have been brought to this country by the immigrants, and are now part and parcel of our wonderful nation—its progress in domestic economy, its advancement in every branch of material improvement, and its love of country and home.

John A. Zwissler, one of the leading farmers of Patoka township, Gibson county, Indiana, was born on November 2, 1853, in Audenbach, Germany, the son of Lawrence and Agnes Carl Zwissler, both of whom were also natives of the same locality. There they were reared and married, when the father successfully followed farming until his death, which occurred in 1859, at the age of sixty years. The following year the widow and her children came to the United States in the hope of improving their condition. These children were Catherine, who is now living at Sparksville, Ohio; Joseph, deceased; Peter, who remained in the fatherland, where he followed farming; Barbara, deceased; Ferdinand, deceased, and John A., the immediate subject of this sketch. Subsequently, the mother became the wife of Simon Moser, also a native of Germany, and to them were born two children, Kate, who lives in Evansville, Indiana, and Mary, a resident of Vanderburg county, Indiana. When the family first arrived in America

they located in Dayton, Ohio, for two years, and then came to Indianapolis, Indiana, where they remained until they moved to Evansville, Indiana, two years later. There the father and mother both died. John A. Zwissler has received only a limited education, and at the age of twenty-six years, in 1872, he enlisted in the Fifteenth Regiment of the United States Army, at Evansville, Indiana, being sent to Newport Barracks, where he remained until sufficiently acquainted with military tactics, and was then assigned to the command at Fort Stanton, in New Mexico, where he remained for five years. During a part of this time he was assigned as escort to the paymaster through that section of the country, and proved a trustworthy and faithful soldier. After his discharge from the army he came to Gibson county, Indiana, and, in 1879, located on the Charles Key farm, south of Princeton, in Patoka township. He first obtained eighty acres of land in section 31, to which he later added ninety acres more, being now the owner of a fine tract of one hundred and seventy acres, comprising one of the best farms in Gibson county. Mr. Zwissler remodeled the residence and other farm buildings and made many other and substantial improvements, which have added materially to the value and attractive appearance of the place. He is up-to-date and progressive in his ideas relating to agriculture, and in this calling has achieved a splendid success. He carries on a general farming business, raising all the crops common to this section of the country, and also gives some attention to the raising of live stock, in which he is also successful.

In 1879 Mr. Zwissler married Margaret McWilliams, a native of South Carolina, a daughter of David and Martha (Wharn) McWilliams, also natives of South Carolina, but who became early settlers of Gibson county, where the father followed farming, and where he and his wife died. To Mr. and Mrs. Zwissler have been born the following children: Martha Agnes, the wife of Elbert Cunningham, of Tulsa, Oklahoma; Lawrence, a farmer, who is at home; Sarah Ellen, who died unmarried; Olive, the widow of William L. Smith, who lives with her father; J. Arthur, who is now attending the civil engineering department in Purdue University, where he will graduate with the class of 1914; Florence, who is at home and is a student in the Princeton high school; and Mary and Katie, who are deceased.

Politically, Mr. Zwissler is an earnest Republican, and religiously is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at King's Station in this county. Mr. Zwissler occupies a prominent place among the substantial farmers of his locality, and deserves all the splendid success which has attended his efforts. He has acted well his part in life, and while primarily interested in

his own affairs, he has not been unmindful of the interests of others, as his efforts to advance the public good and promote the welfare of the community amply attest.

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### SYLVESTER B. ROBINSON.

Sylvester B. Robinson, a farmer and influential citizen of Gibson county, was born here September 15, 1852, the son of James A. Robinson, who was born in Warren county, Kentucky, August 20, 1826. The father of James Robinson was John, a native of Virginia, who after his marriage to a Miss Daugherty, went to Kentucky, where they secured a large tract of land on which they made their home and where he died. After his death, his wife came to Gibson county, Indiana, about the year 1847, and here she died in 1861. They were the parents of seven children, namely: Sarah, William, Earl, Milton, James A., Robert and John. This entire family is now deceased. James A., one of the sons, came to Gibson county about the year 1847 and was that year married to Louisa Benson, a native of Gibson county, born in 1833. She was a daughter of William Benson, of Hardin county, Kentucky, who had come to Gibson county and married Margaret Leach, who was born in Virginia in 1803. William Benson was originally from Virginia and came here in 1816, where he died in 1878. The wife's death occurred in 1866. Mr. Benson was a wheelwright by trade, quite skilled in that day when all sorts of farm implements and vehicles were hand made. He was also a farmer, owning and cultivating a large tract of land. Their children follow: Mary Jane, deceased; Sylvester, who died on March 31, 1914; Martha, deceased; Ellen, wife of Amasa Wilson, of Montgomery township; Louisa (mother of the immediate subject of this sketch), of Owensville, Indiana; Sarah, deceased; William C., who was killed at Kingston, North Carolina; and Lemyra, deceased.

James A. Robinson, after his marriage to Louisa Benson in 1847, located on a farm in Gibson county, where he remained until 1856, at which time he moved to DeWitt county, Illinois. He remained there ten years, and in 1866 returned to Gibson county, where he farmed until 1903. He was always anxious to introduce new and helpful methods into his agricultural work and has the distinction of having brought the first corn planter into Gibson county. He was a man of genial disposition who made scores of friends. Always a staunch Republican, he was active in the politics of his

county and filled an office or two. He and his wife were the parents of nine children, seven of whom are now living. Their names follow: Martha, born September 20, 1850, deceased, the wife of Elisha L. Pritchett, a farmer, furniture dealer and funeral director; Sylvester B., subject of this sketch; George C. died in infancy; Woodfin D., born January 27, 1857, in DeWitt county, Illinois; graduated from State University at Bloomington in 1879, taught school for a while, later attended law school at Ann Arbor, Michigan, from which he was graduated in 1882, was admitted to the bar and took up the practice of his chosen profession in Princeton. In 1884 he was elected county superintendent of the schools of Gibson county. He and A. P. Twineham operated the *Gibson County Leader* for about a year. He was first elected judge in 1895 and served twelve years on the appellate bench. He also represented his district in the state Legislature. In 1909 he removed to Evansville, Indiana, where he took up the practice of law with a partner under the firm name of Robinson & Stilwell. His wife was Jessie Montgomery. The fifth child in this family was William C., born June 28, 1859, residing at present in Colorado Springs, Colorado. In his earlier years he was a dealer in grain at Oakland City, Indiana, and later went to Kansas, where he started in banking business, and still later to Holyoke, Colorado, where he practiced law and engaged in real estate business. He was also made judge in the county courts there. Later he removed to Colorado Springs, where he has since practiced law. He is a staunch Republican and was elected senator of his district. His wife was Lida Dorsey. The sixth child is Minnie Belle, born June 30, 1862, wife of Henry Mauck, of Owensville, Indiana, a farmer and stock dealer; Dove, the seventh child, born in October, 1866, wife of Osborn Lockhart, dealer in coal and building materials at Owensville; Ada, the eighth child, born in August, 1869, wife of John A. Mauck, a salesman traveling out of Fort Smith, Arkansas; and Anna, the ninth and last child, born in 1875, wife of Orville McGinnis, of Evansville, Indiana, a graduate of DePauw University and now an attorney. He has served in office and was referee in bankruptcy.

Sylvester B. Robinson received his elementary education in the schools of DeWitt county, Illinois, later attending the high school at Owensville, Indiana, and the Normal College at Lebanon, Ohio, from which he was graduated in 1872. He taught school for five years in the schools of Gibson county and then took up farming in Patoka township. Here he remained for two years, when he went to Miller, South Dakota, took up a homestead claim and was there three years. At the end of that time he returned to Gibson county and was interested in the coal business at Owensville for about

eight years, since which time he has carried on farming and stock raising in Patoka township.

Sylvester B. Robinson was first married on August 12, 1875, to Mary Barker, of Owensville, daughter of Hiram and Eliza (Fitzgerald) Barker. He was a farmer and pioneer of Gibson county. To their union was born one child, Pearl, wife of E. D. Fletchall, of Poseyville, Indiana, dealer in live stock. To Mr. and Mrs. Fletchall have been born four children: Emily (deceased), Virginia, E. D., Jr., and Robert I. Mrs. Robinson's death occurred June 28, 1878. Mr. Robinson's second wife was Hattie Jaquess, whom he married September 29, 1892. She was a native of Owensville, Indiana, a daughter of William A. and Mary A. (Pollard) Jaquess. Her father was a hotel man and was originally of Poseyville, Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Jaquess had a family of eight children, namely: Roxanna, wife of Richey Summers, of Owensville; Emma, wife of W. A. Stewart, of Vanderbilt, Texas; Lora, wife of Henry Baird, of New Albany, Indiana; Fletcher P., a farmer of Owensville; Hattie, wife of Mr. Robinson; Retta, wife of Charles W. Heistand, of Stamps, Arkansas; Ada B., unmarried, a milliner in Connersville, Indiana, and Minnie, the wife of U. G. Teal, of Owensville, Indiana. By his second marriage, Mr. Robinson has one son, James J., born July 14, 1893, who attended the State University at Bloomington and graduated with the class of 1914.

All through life Mr. Robinson has been a staunch Republican and has taken some active interest in politics, but has never aspired for office as have other members of his family. Religiously, his sympathies are with the Methodist Episcopal church, of which Mrs. Robinson is a member and to which he gives his support. Of undoubted honesty and integrity, Mr. Robinson enjoys the high esteem of all with whom he comes in contact. The members of the family move in the best circles of the community and because of their genuine worth and splendid qualities they enjoy the high regard of all.

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#### WILLIAM ENNES.

Among all branches of history, there is none more instructive or more eagerly sought after than that which truthfully delineates the rise and progress of the state, county or community in which the reader lives. There is pleasure as well as profit to every intelligent mind in contemplating the struggles of the early settlers in every portion of the great West; how they

encountered and successfully overcame every species of trial, hardship and danger to which men in that stirring period were subjected. But these things strike us more forcibly and fill our minds with more immediate interest when confined to our own locality where we can yet occasionally meet with some of the silver-haired actors in those early scenes, men whose bravery in encountering the manifold troubles and misfortunes incident to frontier times has borne an important part towards making Indiana what it now is, and whose acts, in connection with hundreds of others in the first settling of our vast domain, have compelled the world to acknowledge us an invincible people. The early settlement of Gibson county was marked by as much heroism and daring as characterized the frontier history of any other section of the state. Her pioneers were men of invincible courage, undaunted by the obstacles which confronted them, and the results of their self-sacrificing labors are today seen in the wonderful achievements they wrought in laying the foundation upon which their successors have builded wisely and well.

William S. Ennes, ex-county treasurer and retired merchant of Princeton, Indiana, was born November 28, 1862, in Washington township, Gibson county, Indiana, son of Embree and Martha J. (Kirk) Ennes, both of Washington township, this county. The father was a son of John and Elizabeth (Key) Ennes, of South Carolina, and who were among the pioneer settlers of Washington township. Here they secured wild land, which they cleared and made a home, reared a large family and died there. They were buried in Mt. Olive cemetery. Embree Ennes had only a limited schooling in the schools of those days and lived at home until August, 1862, when he enlisted in Company B, Sixty-fifth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, at Princeton. Shortly after joining his command, he was taken sick at Henderson, Kentucky, and his wife brought him home, where he died in 1863 at the age of twenty-one years. He was a farmer and he and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. His wife was married a second time, to John Sullivan, a farmer (deceased), of Buena Vista, Washington township, in this county. She resides in Oakland City. To John Sullivan and wife (Mrs. Martha J. Ennes) were born: Jasper S., a farmer in Knox county, Indiana; U. S., a jeweler at Vincennes, Indiana; Ada, deceased; Perry O., with the Waltham Watch Company at Waltham, Massachusetts, since 1892.

William S. Ennes, who was the only child by his mother's first marriage, was educated in the home schools and also at the Danville Central Normal College. After he left school he clerked in a hardware store at Fort

Wayne, Indiana, and was also with Barrett & Stokes, hardware dealers at Princeton, Indiana. He was appointed deputy county treasurer in 1889 and was then appointed county treasurer to fill out an unexpired term in 1897, serving three months, after which he was elected county treasurer, taking office in 1900 and serving four years. After the expiration of his term he was in the grocery business in Princeton, Indiana, for eight years, selling out in 1911, and since then he has looked after his farm interests.

William S. Ennes was married November 14, 1889, to Lucy Kightly, who was born in White River township, Gibson county, Indiana, and is a daughter of Josiah Kightly. To Mr. and Mrs. Ennes have been born four children, namely: Vesper D., born March 9, 1891, who graduated from the high school of Princeton, and is now a steam fitter at Crawfordsville, Indiana; Darle, born July 11, 1893, who is attending Indiana University at Bloomington, and is in the second year; Raymond, born August, 1902, and died in October, 1902, and Lowell K., born October 4, 1903.

For the past ten years Mrs. Ennes has been on the board of charities and for the past four years has been president of guardians. She takes a great interest in lodge and charity work and is a splendid woman and mother.

The following is a story of the life of Josiah Kightly, the father of Mrs. Ennes, as written by himself just following his eightieth birthday, and dedicated to his children and his children's children:

"I was born in Chatteras, Cambridgeshire, England, in the closing hours of January 31, 1822. My father was William Kightly. My mother's maiden name was Mary Elizabeth Phillips. I was one of eight children, there being seven boys and one girl in the family. My father was a farmer and my early life, until I was ten years of age, was passed as childhood days were usually passed in that time in a farming community, helping and hindering about the home. When I was ten years of age I decided I would go to work instead of going to school. I had no trouble in securing work and I want to say right here that I have worked from that day to this (seventy years), but I now feel that I am entitled to a rest for the balance of my earthly days. As I was saying, when I was ten years old I hired to a neighbor to herd his sheep and lambs and for this I was paid sixpence a day—twelve cents in our money. After working a long time for this man, he was so pleased with my work he told me he would give me sixpence every two weeks for my own in addition to my regular wages, which he knew went to my parents to help pay my board and clothing. I am proud to say that I saved the extra sixpence and soon had plenty of money, all of which I care-

fully saved until I decided to come to this country. I worked for the same boss eight years, then I went home to my father and worked for him four years, driving his team or whatever there was to do in the daytime and at night I often enjoyed myself going to see the girls.

"I had long had a growing desire to seek something better and my thoughts naturally turned to America. When I was twenty-two years old, strong and healthy, in the fall of 1844, the last of October, I bade farewell to home and kindred and set sail on the sailing vessel 'Frankona' bound for New Orleans. Shortly after we set sail the fun began. Before we were out of the Irish channel, we—the passengers one and all—were 'pumping ship' in great fashion, for we were all sea-sick. We had a good time and sailed very fast and the rolling salt waves looked like fire. It was a beautiful sight had we been in condition to enjoy it. However, we went to bed and stayed there until the seasickness wore off. While that sickness lasted I will confess I wanted back to the old home and the friends I had always known, but after recovering from the sickness life put on many charms and from that time on I saw all the enjoyment I could out of the voyage. We were forty-seven days making the trip and during that time I saw many strange sights that were new to me. Besides having lots of fun we saw sea hogs, flying fish in great numbers, also one whale. To my unpracticed eye the whale looked to be as large around as a big horse and more than thirty feet long. I guess he got mad at our vessel for he went off a little ways and blew up the water as high as we could see it. While passing one of the Bahama islands our vessel hove to and there I had my first sight of a black man. That was what we called him then, but after we got to the United States I found the general term used for black man was 'nigger.' To many of us he was a great curiosity. All he had on was a gunnysack with a hole cut in the bottom through which his head came. The captain told the sailors to throw a rope down to him. He had a skiff load of fine fish and he rowed close to our ship side. They threw the rope to him and the darky filled a sack full of the fish and the sailors hauled it on deck. Then the darky came up and he was a sight for us to see—a black man in a gunny sack! The captain told the steward to take what fish he needed for the cabin and let the passengers have the rest. The fresh fish were a great treat to us. After the darkey went back to his skiff our vessel went on as best it could, but we had sea grass and hot winds to contend with, and we got along very slowly. I remember an incident that occurred about that time. There was an old dog on the vessel and one day as the first mate was on deck the old dog came along and the mate kicked



at him. The mate happened that day to be wearing a pair of old slippers and in his kick he missed the dog and the old slipper went sailing into the sea. With that the mate gave the other foot a kick and, telling both the slippers to go to Hades, he stood and watched the last slipper follow its mate. There were many nice days and many awfully rough days and nights. Some days the captain would walk the deck and call all hands to action, declaring there was a storm coming. Then all sails had to be taken in until the storm was over, then another fresh start taken and so it went until we got in sight of the light houses at the mouth of the entrance of the great Mississippi river, where we waited for tow boats to take us up the river to New Orleans. Our vessel drew sixteen feet of water over the sand bar at the mouth of the river. Our tow boat towed three ships up the river to New Orleans and we landed at the dock at four o'clock on the morning of December 12, 1844, and then we green horns began to see the sights. I worked at different occupations at New Orleans for several months and did well working, for what seemed to me, a poor boy, lots of money. In 1845, as there was much talk of yellow fever in New Orleans, I improved the opportunity to go up the river, left the city and finally landed at Evansville, where I decided to stay. I promised my friend Thomas Ruston to go back to New Orleans with him in the fall, but being assured work as a clerk in the store of Babcock Brothers in Evansville I did not go. I stayed with the firm thirteen years. I began work with them August 4, 1845, my wages being eleven dollars a month and board. After I stayed with them three years I married Mrs. Elizabeth Furnas of Evansville and went to housekeeping and my wages were increased. They were gradually advanced until I got fifty dollars per month, which was considered exceptionally good wages for those days. Having received what I consider an exceptional offer, I went to work for M. W. Foster as clerk in the old warehouse that stood on what was at that time the canal, but is now known as Fifth street. I remained there about two years, then came up to Hazleton, Indiana, where I purchased from Mr. Foster a stock of merchandise. This was in March, 1862, but I did not take possession of the stock until April of the same year.

"On the 19th of April, 1862, I moved my family from Evansville and took up my residence at Hazleton, Indiana, and began the mercantile business and here I have ever since made my home. I was then about forty years of age and will have been here forty years next April if I live to see that day. During the forty years I have lived at this place I have witnessed many changes. When I came here there was no church or Sunday school and I

was lost on Sunday. When I came to Evansville and began life there Father Parrett and Joseph Wheeler were local preachers at the Locust street Methodist church, and there I attended service. In 1860, I think it was, while Brother Gillett was our preacher, we had a big revival meeting and many of the boys, myself among the number, were converted and joined the church and we truly enjoyed religion. So when I moved to Hazleton and found no devotional services to attend I interested myself in starting a Sunday school which, I am indeed glad to say, was very successful and is still showing a continued and healthy growth, both spiritually and in increased members. Since I came here there have been great changes for the better. Churches have been established and Sunday is now a day of spiritual strength and thanksgiving.

"In conclusion I want to say to my children and my friends that I know that my days on earth are drawing to a close, but my mind is serene in the comforting thought that I have made my calling and election sure with my heavenly Father and I am now ready and waiting with all I have and am to make the change from this life to a seat in Glory 'where moth and rust doth not corrupt and where thieves do not break through nor steal'—there to remain with my beloved ones gone before—forever and forever."

As the preceding autobiographical history of Mr. Kightly has treated in a general way of his life from early childhood, this sketch will deal with such details and matters as have not been there related. He was twice married, his first and second wives being sisters. They were both born in Ramsey, Huntingtongshire, England. The death of Mrs. Elizabeth Kightly occurred October 29, 1865, and she was buried at Oak Hill cemetery, near Evansville. She was a most estimable woman, home loving and domestic in her tastes, and her death was a bereavement indeed to her husband and family. On April 8, 1867, Mr. Kightly was married to Sarah Roe of Hazleton, Indiana. Mrs. Sarah Kightly died January 11, 1898, at her home in Hazleton, Indiana, and was buried at Oak Hill cemetery. She was a kind Christian woman, a fond wife and a loving mother and her loss was deeply felt, not only by her husband and family, but by all who knew her. In each of these wives the husband found a true companion and helpmate and their deaths left him sadly bereaved. After the death of his last wife in 1898, one of his granddaughters, Miss Mary A. West, assumed the duties of housekeeper for his home. In the following August she was married to John Knaub, and those two made their home with the aged man until his final summons. In this

connection it may be said that to their loving care and devotion much of the happiness of his latter days was due. He was the object of their kindness, care and solicitude and his interests and happiness were their first thought.

Coming from Evansville, where his first job of work had been the clearing of trees from the present site of the Union station to make way for a hay press, Mr. Kightly was a continuous resident of Hazleton from 1862 until his death, except six months in 1864, when, thinking he could better his conditions, he disposed of his business interests in Hazleton and engaged in the same line in Friendsville, Illinois. This being off a railroad line, he had to freight his goods from Evansville by wagon, crossing the Wabash river at Mt. Carmel, Illinois. He soon became aware that, for his business, he should be located on some railroad, and coming back to Hazleton, he repurchased the store he had owned there and settled down to make that place his permanent home. Having made this decision he began to invest his savings in land in that section of the county and before his death he was owner of several hundred acres of the best land in Gibson county. For many years Mr. Kightly passed his life peacefully and quietly as a country merchant, but in 1875 his landed interests having become of large proportions, he retired from his mercantile business and devoted his time to looking after his farm. Ever an ardent Republican, he did not refuse when in 1882 his party asked him to fill the office of county commissioner, and served two terms. During his term in office the magnificent county court house at the county seat was built and to his watchful care may be credited much of the good work there is to be seen on that building. He was the same careful, conservative business man when looking after the affairs of the county that he was in his own personal affairs, and he retired from that office with the confidence and respect of all with whom he had official dealings. Mr. Kightly was ever interested in the material progress of his home town, and in 1903, realizing that the business of Hazleton and the rich surrounding country lacked the advantages of a bank near at home, he was one of the first to set about the establishment of an institution of that kind. The result was that the Citizens State Bank of Hazleton, Indiana, was founded. He was elected its first president and took an active interest in its affairs until a short time before his death. At the time of his death he was a member of the order of Odd Fellows and until his death was a strong defender of the principles of that order. In personal appearance Mr. Kightly was about five feet four inches in height, weighing about one hundred and sixty-five pounds. His com-

plexion was normally fair, but owing to his love for outdoor life he was continually tanned until he had a swarthy appearance. He was always close shaven. He was very energetic and active and fond of walking and horse-back riding and it was his great pleasure in his old age to mount his favorite horse "Molly," a beautiful black, and ride to his farm daily. He loved his home and was a hospitable and entertaining host. Faithful and constant in his attendance at his church his life was that of an honest man who desired to serve his Maker and his deserving fellow men. He was a Methodist and gave freely of his time and means to further the advancement of that church and the gospel in general. He was honest in all of his dealings; was charitable, but was disposed to know that his charity was well directed. He wanted to live in peace with all mankind and yet was quick to resent an attempt to perpetuate upon him a wrong. In all his dealings he tried to observe the precepts of the Golden Rule, nor did he look with any degree of charity upon a dishonest act. Personally, Mr. Kightly was sociable and genial with all, and, while possessed of a quick and violent temper, he was quick to recover from such outbursts and, if in the wrong, to make ample apology. He looked on the habit of worrying as a sin and his philosophical advice to the man who worried might well be followed by all. To such an unfortunate he would say: "Don't worry; if what you are worrying about can be helped, go to work and help it; if it can't be helped, what is the use of worrying?" No more truthful and sensible advice was ever given.

In 1850 Mr. Kightly had taken out his naturalization papers in Vanderburg county, Indiana. He never returned to his English home and never saw any of the family of his youth except his sister and his two brothers, John and Francis, who later came to this country. At his death in 1907 Mr. Kightly left the following surviving children: Mrs. Lucy Kightly Ennes, of Princeton, Indiana, wife of William S. Ennes, who served two terms as county treasurer of Gibson county, Indiana, being elected by the Republican party; and Francis J. Kightly, one of White River township's most progressive farmers, who lives on a splendid four-hundred-acre farm two miles southwest of Hazleton, Indiana. In his later life, Mr. Kightly celebrated each birthday anniversary by having his children and his children's children meet with him to observe the day. On these occasions he delighted in gathering about him his descendants and relatives and relating humorous and often pathetic incidents through which he passed his younger days. He knew that his period on earth was drawing to a close, yet his desire as he grew older was to make those about him joyful and contented. Often when the

cares of the day were heavy he would lie down upon his couch, draw his familiar old cap down over his eyes and softly croon or sing his favorite hymn, "Blessed be the Name of the Lord," until the tired eyes would close and sleep would softly hold him in its gentle embrace.

Mr. Kightly had all his life been of rugged and sturdy constitution and as age fastened its ruthless hand upon the sturdy frame the vital tissues of life began to wither and give out. His last sickness, if sickness it could be called, was of comparatively short duration and through it all there was no suffering. It was simply the quiet, invisible dissolution of the mortal body and the end drew gradually near. January 1, 1907, he began to fail. From that time there was a gradual decline until he became perfectly helpless, though free from any suffering. His mental faculties remained strong and clear until within a few hours of his death. He knew those around him and not the least shadow of doubt clouded his mind as to the happy ending of the final summons. The last words he ever uttered on earth were a line of his favorite hymn, which he no doubt realized to the fullest extent, "Blessed be the Name of the Lord." At half past one on the morning of March 6, 1907, his spirit bade adieu to its mortal clay and joined the loved ones who had preceded him to the golden shore. His death was peaceful and painless and the loved ones who stood about his dying bedside could not mourn as those who have no comfort, for they knew he was at rest. Another favorite hymn of his was "When I Can Read My Title Clear to Mansions in the Skies." His funeral took place on Thursday, March 7, 1907, at two-thirty P. M., and it was one of the largest ever held in Hazleton. It was from the Methodist Episcopal church and the services were conducted by Rev. W. W. Reynolds, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church, assisted by the presiding elder, Rev. Dr. J. W. Duncan, of the Methodist district, and the Rev. J. R. Edwards of the General Baptist church.

The life history of Mr. Kightly would not be complete without mention made of one who for many years made her home with him, his only sister, Mrs. Mary Ann Knowles. She married in England and was the mother of three children, all of whom died in infancy. Her marriage proving an unhappy one, she came to this country in 1803, and from that time to her death she lived with her brother. By her gentle ways and kindly heart she became established in the affections not only of the family, but of all who knew her. "Auntie Knowles," as she was known to all, was a mother to the children of the family, when they were indeed motherless, and to her brother

in his many bereavements she was a tower of strength and a source of great comfort. She died at the home of her niece, Mrs. Lucy Ennes, at Princeton, Indiana, whom she was visiting in 1892, lacking one month of being eighty years old. Her body was laid at rest at Hazleton, Indiana.

Following is given the genealogical history of the family of Josiah Kightly:

Josiah Kightly was born January 31, 1822; married Mrs. Elizabeth Furnas, October 3, 1848. To this union were born: Francis Josiah, born August 13, 1849, married, first Lucinda Edwards, September 3, 1880, and then Della Briner, April 28, 1903; William Roe, born August 8, 1852, died May 15, 1868; Sarah Jane, born April 11, 1855, married A. V. West, May 1, 1873, died July 1, 1884; Mary Elizabeth, born July 9, 1858, married Albert Daly September 11, 1877, died December 29, 1880; Samuel Roe, born July 9, 1858, died February 10, 1859; Emma Kate, born June 2, 1860, died March 19, 1861; John Russell, born March 7, 1863, died December 25, 1893; Mrs. Elizabeth Kightly, died October 29, 1865, and Mr. Kightly married Sarah Roe, April 8, 1867. To this union were born: Lucy, born April 4, 1869, married William Stilwell Ennes, November 12, 1889; Alice May, born March 19, 1872, died September 10, 1872; John William, born December 26, 1874, died March 11, 1875. Mrs. Sarah Kightly died January 11, 1898.

The grandchildren of Josiah Kightly follow: To Sarah Jane and A. V. West were born seven children, three now living: Mrs. Mary Ann Knaub, Mrs. Alice May Furgerson and Josiah A. West. To Mary Elizabeth and Albert Daly were born three children, all now deceased. To Lucy K. and W. S. Ennes were born four children, Vesper Dale, born March 9, 1891; Darle, born July 11, 1893; Raymond, born August 3, 1902, and died in October, 1902; Lowell Kightly, born October 4, 1907.

The marriages of Josiah Kightly's grandchildren are as follows: Mary Ann West and John Knaub, August 27, 1899; Josiah A. West and Luella Kays, July 26, 1902. The great-grandchildren follow: To Mr. and Mrs. Josiah West, Everett, Ethel, Maud and Chester; to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Furgerson, Gertrude May; to Mr. and Mrs. John Knaub, John and Velma.

Faternally, Mr. Ennes is affiliated with the Masons, being a member of the blue lodge at Princeton, the chapter and council, he having attained to the thirty-second degree, while he and his wife are members of the Order of the Eastern Star, Golden Fleece Chapter No. 176, at Princeton, in which subject is a past patron and Mrs. Ennes is a past matron. They are members of the First Methodist Episcopal church.

## MILLS AND GREEK FAMILIES.

By Bertha Greek.

This is to be a history of my ancestors and of myself and family. My father's family was of English descent and so was my mother's; my father's name was Mills, and my mother's maiden name was Stapleton.

My grandfather and grandmother Mills were born at Holowell, Kennebec county, Maine. My grandparents, James and Rachael (Courson) Mills, were the parents of twelve children, nine sons and three daughters, all of whom were born in the state of Maine. They had seven sons in succession, my father, Duston Mills, being the seventh son. They reared eleven of the twelve children to manhood and womanhood. Their eldest child was a daughter, named Affia; then followed the seven sons: Bracket, Zizasa died in infancy, Richard, Asa, Daniel, James and Duston. The remaining children were Mary, John, Samuel and Caroline, the youngest of my grandfather Mills' immediate family.

Aunt Affia Mills married a man in Maine, by the name of Richard Hussey, the progenitor of all the Husseys that I ever saw. Aunt Affia had thirteen children and raised them all to man's and woman's estate.

Uncle Bracket Mills married Miss Anna Reynolds, here in Indiana. Uncle Richard Mills married in the state of Maine. Uncle Asa Mills married a Miss Delight Vandusen. Uncle Daniel Mills married a Miss Hannah Chapman, and lived and died here in Gibson county. Uncle James Mills married a Kentucky lady by the name of Mahala Hopkins. Then my father, Duston Mills, married Miss Louisa Stapleton and settled on a tract of eighty acres that his father deeded to him, and where he lived and died. The next in order in grandfather's family was Aunt Mary Mills, who married a man by the name of Anson White, and lived in Illinois. Late in life they removed to Iowa, where both died, leaving children, Quincy, Lewis, Matilda and Warrick. The next was Uncle John Mills, who married a Miss Elizabeth Varner, and lived and died in Carmi, Illinois. Uncle Samuel Mills married a sister of Uncle John Mills' wife. Her name was Sarah Varner. Aunt Caroline Mills, the youngest of my grandfather Mills' family, married a man by the name of William Coleman. They did not live to be very old. None of my father's family lived to an exceedingly old age.

Grandfather James Mills left the state of Maine on the first of March, 1810, for a new country. They started with wagons and teams and plunder. They traveled on west to the Genesee valley in New York, arriving there



the last of April. Then grandfather rented a large farm and put all of the family to raising different crops suitable to the climate. Then grandfather, Uncle Richard and a dog, started on foot for Indiana and Illinois, which was then the far West. They were gone so long that the family, not having heard from them, naturally became very uneasy. About the last of August, the dog they started with got back to the family in New York. They naturally concluded that the Indians had killed grandfather and Uncle Richard. As the crops were all made grandmother thought best to sell off everything and go back to the state of Maine.

When grandfather and Uncle Richard reached Indiana, the dog then left them, and so they concluded to go back to New York and to get the family together, and return to Indiana. When they got back they found grandmother getting ready to go back to Maine. Grandfather sold the crops and started for Indiana. They traveled on to Meadville, Pennsylvania, on the Allegheny river, arriving there in October. There they built family boats and embarked their teams, wagons and goods, and the several families started down the Allegheny and Ohio rivers, and landed at Evansville on New Year's day, 1811. There were but three houses in the place, which was then called Smith's Landing. They tied up at Smith's Landing and grandfather and Uncle Richard Hussey started to seek a location. They went north from Smith's Landing and located east of Princeton, but of course there was no Princeton then. They stopped and looked around where Fort Branch is now, but went on north, where they finally located. They then walked to Vincennes, where the land office was then located, and entered their land. Grandfather took up a strip a mile and a quarter long by a half mile wide. Uncle Richard Hussey took a strip three-fourths of a mile long by one-half of a mile wide. They then returned to Smith's Landing, unloaded and sold their boats, and took up their march to possess their new land, and build their homes. Whip sawing was the only way people got lumber in those days, so they made a whip saw and sawed up some of the large trees they found on their land, and built their homes. Uncle Richard Mills was the only one of grandfather Mills' sons who had married. He married in New York, at Ocean Point. He built a log cabin in the woods where James Hussey's old house now stands. He dug a well and cleared some ground. They had two sons. Uncle Richard had learned the cabinet trade and did not like pioneering, so he left this place and the last we ever heard of him he was in Canada.

Uncle Bracket had learned to be a wood workman. Uncle Asa and



Uncle Daniel learned tailoring, and settled in Princeton when it became a town.

Uncle James was named after grandfather and followed farming. Grandfather and grandmother lived with Uncle James since I can remember. Uncle James and Aunt Mahala had two sons and four daughters. About the year 1838 or 1839, grandfather and Uncle James got the notion to have richer land, so they sold the home and took Congress land in Patoka bottoms, near Moore's bridge. They built a log house, large enough for both families, and in two years they were all dead of malaria, and were buried on their farms in the bottoms.

Duston Mills was the seventh son in succession of my grandfather's family. He married Louisa Stapleton, the oldest daughter of Joshua Stapleton, also a pioneer of this part of Indiana. Duston Mills was born at Hallowell, Kenebeck county, in the state of Maine, on June 5, 1804. His wife, Louisa, was born April 28, 1808, in Robinson county, Tennessee. Duston Mills and Louisa Stapleton were married in November, 1827. To them were born twelve children. On March 14, 1829, there were born to them twins, a son and a daughter, the daughter weighing one pound and the son seven pounds. The son, whom they named Zyasa, died within twenty-four hours after birth, while the daughter is living yet, at the age of seventy-seven years. They named the daughter Berilla. Their third child was a daughter which was born February 4, 1831, and was named Adelia. The fourth child was a daughter, born September 2, 1832, and named Cecelia. The fifth child was born November 8, 1833, and named Zelissa. The sixth child was a son, born January 6, 1835, named Byron. The seventh child was a son, born March 20, 1838, named Horace. The eighth child was a daughter, born August 15, 1840, and named Elvira. The ninth and tenth children were twins, born May 5, 1843, and named Albert and Almena. The eleventh and twelfth children were twins, born November 19, 1846, and named John and Mary. This completes the names and ages of the Duston Mills family.

The remainder of grandfather Mills' family were (1) Mary, who married Anson White, and both died in Iowa, leaving quite a family. (2) John Mills, who married Elizabeth Varnor, who lived and died in Carmi, Illinois. They left a family of three children. (3) Samuel, who lived and died in Grayville, Illinois, leaving a family of two children. He married Sarah Varner. (4) Caroline, the youngest of the twelve children of my grandfather Mills, married a Mr. Coleman. They died young and left no family.

The oldest daughter, Berilla, married Joseph Greek, who was a brick

maker at the time of their marriage, but eventually became a farmer. They are both living at this date, August 8, 1907, and have reared a family of twelve children. Three children died in infancy and five are alive at the present time. Their eldest was a daughter, Ellen, who married John Seals. She died within two years after marriage, leaving a little daughter who soon followed her to the grave. Their second child was a son, born April 4, 1850, whom they named Albert Tell. He married Sarah Burchfield. He was killed a few years ago by stepping off a moving train, leaving his widow with quite a family. Their third child was a daughter named Joanna, born January 5, 1852, who was married when quite young, to a man by the name of Marshfield T. Paul. They had a daughter and son before she died. The fourth child, George William, was born April 18, 1854, and died October 27, 1855. The fifth child was a son, born February 28, 1855, and named John Henry. The sixth child, born May 18, 1855, was Alace May. The seventh child was born September 29, 1860, named Abraham Lincoln. The eighth child, Samuel Milo, was a son, born March 6, 1863, and died October 19, 1863. The ninth child, Kate Louisa, was born October 20, 1864. The tenth child was a daughter, Margaret Adelia, born June 27, 1867, and died March 12, 1868. The eleventh child, Rhoda, was born January 20, 1869. The twelfth child was a daughter, Zelissa Mills Greek, born April 27, 1871.

The deaths of the family of Joseph and Berilla Greek up to the present time (1907) are as follows: George William, October 27, 1855; Samuel Milo, October 19, 1863; Mary Adelia, March 12, 1868; Ellen Greek Seals, April 11, 1873; Joanna Greek Paul, October 21, 1873; and Abraham L. Greek, July 8, 1876.

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### WILLIAM C. HUDELSON.

There is no positive rule for achieving success; and yet in the life of the successful man there are always lessons which might well be followed. The man who gains prosperity is he who can see and utilize the opportunities that come in his path. The essential conditions of human life are ever the same, the surroundings of individuals differing but slightly, and when one man passes another on the highway of life to reach the goal of prosperity ahead of others who perhaps started out before him, it is because he has the power to use advantages which probably encompass the whole human race. Today among the prominent citizens and successful men of Gibson county stands William C. Hudelson, retired farmer and stock raiser. The qualities of keen dis-

crimination, sound judgment and executive ability enter very largely into his makeup and have been contributing elements to the material success which has come to him.

William C. Hudelson is a native of Gibson county and first saw the light of day on December 4, 1844, on the old Hudelson homestead in Patoka township, section 22. He is the son of Alexander, born February 16, 1822, in Patoka township also, and he is the son of Alexander,<sup>Sr.</sup> who was born near Lexington, Kentucky, and who came to Gibson county as early as 1813 or 1814, and securing a tract of wild land, proceeded to clear it and devote his talents to general farming and stock raising. He was quite successful in this and later retired, taking up his residence in Princeton, where he and his wife, who was Mary Crawford, both died. They were the parents of ten children, all of whom are dead; Samuel, the eldest, passed his life in Gibson county; James was a farmer and also a merchant and produce man at Patoka and was widely known; John was a farmer in Montgomery township, Gibson county; Moses was also a farmer, whose later years were passed in Princeton, where he died; William was a farmer who went to Zenia, Illinois, and died there; Alexander was the father of the immediate subject of this sketch; Mary married the Reverend Samuel Baldrich, a minister of the Associate Reform church, and they made their home in different places; Jane became the wife of Payton Devin and they made their home just north of Princeton; Ann was the wife of Judge Eli Ely, who lived in Princeton, and Isabelle, who always remained at home and took care of her parents, Isabelle remained unmarried. She also took care of her niece, Mary Ely, the daughter of Ann Ely.

Alexander Hudelson,<sup>Sr.</sup> father of William C. Hudelson, was given an excellent education for his day and locality. When he grew to manhood he located on an eighty-acre farm in Center township, this county, where he lived for about four years, after which he resided in different parts of the county until he retired from the active life of a farmer and took up his residence in Princeton, where he died May 11, 1904. On September 7, 1843, he was united in marriage to Julia Ann Kellogg of Ohio, born February 5, 1825, who still resides with the subject at the advanced age of ninety. To their union were born ten children, namely: William Crawford, the subject of this sketch, being the first born; Lavina Belle, born May 3, 1846, died May 10, 1846; Alexander Chalmer, born April 18, 1847, who married Ella Tucker and is a farmer in Center township, this county; Mary Ellen, born February 15, 1849, died unmarried March 25, 1902; Emma Belle, born

June 21, 1851, who married T. Gillespie, of David City, Nebraska; Warren Stewart, born February 22, 1854, a contractor and builder at Los Angeles, California; James Perry, born March 23, 1856, died December 20, 1913; John McDill, born July 5, 1858, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church, and at present located at Versailles, Indiana. His wife was Addie Hovall; Lucius Rolla, born April 8, 1861, died December 6, 1905, a doctor of medicine, who received his education in the Philadelphia Medical College of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and practiced in Princeton and later in Rush county, Indiana. Dr. L. R. married Maude Ellis. Samuel Grant, the youngest child of the family, was born January 5, 1864, and is a telegraph operator at Clearwater, Kansas. His wife was Mamie Yenowine.

William C. Hudelson received his elementary education in the schools of Gibson county, later attending high school at Princeton and Oakland City. He was quite a young man at the outbreak of the Civil war and, fired with patriotism, he enlisted in the cause on February 8, 1864, as a private in Company H, Seventeenth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He enlisted under Colonel J. G. Vale and Captain James Armstrong and was assigned to the mounted infantry of the Army of the Cumberland. He was in several skirmishes and all through the Atlanta campaign and received his honorable discharge August 8, 1865, at Macon, Georgia. After his return home from the army, he taught school at various places in Gibson county—Oakland City, Owensville, Patoka and other places. When he decided to follow the vocation of a farmer, he first located in Center township, later going to Patoka township, where for the past twenty years he has lived on what was originally part of the old McClure homestead. He has successfully carried on general farming, giving particular attention to the raising of stock.

Politically, Mr. Hudelson is a stalwart supporter of the Republican party, although he has never sought office. He is a member of Archer Post, No. 28, Grand Army of the Republic, at Princeton, and is an active member of the United Presbyterian church, while his wife is a member of the General Baptist church. Mr. Hudelson is a man who stands very high indeed in the estimation of his friends, a man whose judgment is often sought on important matters. He has been intrusted with the settlement of several estates and in the discharge of his delicate duty has met the approval of all concerned.

Mr. Hudelson has been twice married, his first wife being Joanna Tucker, of Gibson county, with whom he united in marriage April 24, 1869. She was born March 30, 1847, and died April 2, 1871. To their union was born

one son, Clarence, who died July 11, 1871, while still a babe. On May 28, 1886, Mr. Hudelson took as his second wife Miss Nancy Virginia McClure, a native of Gibson county, daughter of Joseph Perry and Catherine Ann (Devin) McClure. Three children have come into their home—Anna, who resides at home, was graduated from the Princeton high school with the class of 1907; H. Earl was graduated from the Princeton high school with the same class as his sister Anna, later attended the State University at Bloomington, where in 1911 he graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts, and in 1912 received the degree of Master of Arts. He is an excellent English scholar and after finishing his course at the State University at Bloomington, he took the Doctor's degree at the British Museum in London, England, and now is assistant instructor in some preparatory school for boys at Port Deposit, Maryland, where he has been for the past two years. In addition to his studies and duties, he has found time to travel extensively and has come to be considered a young writer of promise. Laura, the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hudelson, is attending the Princeton high school and graduated with the class of 1913.

The Hudelsons are one of the foremost families of their community, their home being a charming center from which only good influences radiate. Mr. Hudelson takes a commendable interest in the general welfare of the community and his support can always be counted upon for all measures which have for their object the educational, moral, social or material advancement of his fellows. Socially, Mr. Hudelson is a pleasing companion who enjoys the friendship of all who know him. Of marked domestic tastes, his greatest enjoyment is found in his home, where, surrounded by his family, he passes his happiest hours.

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### HUGH MALONE.

The following is a brief sketch of the life of one who, by close attention to business, has achieved marked success in the world's affairs and risen to an honorable position among the enterprising men of the county with which his interests are identified. It is a plain record, rendered remarkable by no strange or mysterious adventure, no wonderful and lucky accident and no tragic situation, aside from his heroic services in the Union army. Mr. Malone is one of those estimable characters whose integrity and strong personality must force them into an admirable notoriety, which their modesty never seeks, who command the respect of their contemporaries and their

posterity and leave the impress of their individuality upon the age in which they live.

Hugh Malone was born August 26, 1842, in Patoka township, Gibson county, Indiana, the son of James and Lucinda (Key) Malone. The father of James Malone was also named James. Hugh Malone's grandfather married a Miss Hunter. The grandfather came to Gibson county at a very early date and settled just north of Owensville. James, Sr., had a brother John, who accompanied him to this county. He was a prominent man of his time, being known far and wide for his geniality and wit, and as a story teller, he was often the center of an admiring group of friends. The Malones were great hunters in those early days and their table was always supplied with the best game of which there was an abundance. In later years, James Malone, Sr., lived with his son, Absalom, in the northeast part of Owensville, his death occurring while he was residing there. In his early life he was at one time captured by the Indians and forced to run the gauntlet, composed of two rows of redskins, armed with clubs and whips, his body bearing marks of this experience to his dying day. To James Malone, Sr., were born six sons and one daughter: The subject's father was born in Lexington, Kentucky; Thomas, a blacksmith, lived in Owensville and Poseyville, Indiana; John, a farmer in Montgomery township; Al was a physician, preacher and store keeper, at Palestine, Illinois, where he was quite prominent; Elijah lived at Owensville; Eliza married William Matthews, a tailor, at Owensville; Parmelia married Owen Jones, a carpenter and expert wood worker, of Owensville. James Malone, Sr., and wife were members of the Baptist church.

James Malone, the father of Hugh, came to Gibson county with his parents when he was but three years old, and lived in this locality until his death in his sixty-eighth year. On reaching mature years he worked for nine years, at the wage of nine dollars a year, his employer being John Browder. At the end of this time he purchased a suit of clothes at an outlay of three dollars, the suit lasting three years. He was united in marriage to Lucinda Key, of Kentucky, and settled in the Stone neighborhood, in Montgomery township, later removing to the Robb farm north of Princeton, where Hugh was born. To the subject's parents were born the following children: (1) John is a physician. As a baby he was rocked in a cradle made from a sugar trough. He attended school at Greencastle and studied medicine under Doctor West, after which he took up the practice of his profession and made it his life work. He was an orderly sergeant in the

Forty-second Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, but on account of disability was discharged. He died in 1892. His wife's maiden name was Harriet Trippett. (2) William was a farmer in Patoka township. He was the victim of an accident which caused his death. In cutting cord wood, he ran to get from under a falling tree and fell on an axe, so seriously injuring himself that his death resulted. (3) Hugh is the subject of this review. (4) Cynthia, deceased, married William M. Boswell and they lived in Gibson county; (5) Annie, deceased, was the wife of Isaac Mounts and lived in Patoka township. The subject's parents were faithful members of the Baptist church. His father was a Democrat.

The exceedingly limited early education of Mr. Malone was secured in the little log house of pioneer times, and he remained on the home place assisting in the farm work until his enlistment in the Union army, on August 11, 1862. He became a member of Company B, Sixty-fifth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, recruiting at Princeton, and under the command of Captain Stilwell, Colonel Foster and Lieutenant-Colonel Johnson. The command to which Mr. Malone was attached was sent to Evansville, Indiana, first being a part of the Twenty-third Army Corps, and its record of eighteen battles and innumerable skirmishes is one to be proud of. From Evansville they were dispatched to Henderson, Kentucky, and then up the Green River valley to Schuylersville, returning subsequently to Henderson. August 10th of that year the command was mounted and sent to Knoxville, Tennessee. From that place their operations extended as far as Bristol, Virginia, they being engaged at Smoky Mountain and Cumberland Gap. After being dismounted they took part in the great Atlanta campaign, and finally at the close of hostilities, took part in the Grand Review, at Washington, in April, 1865. After the review Mr. Malone was engaged in the fighting in North Carolina and was mustered out on June 9, 1865, and returned to his home.

September 7, 1865, Mr. Malone was married to Nancy C. Prichett, of Harrison county, Indiana, the daughter of John L. and Margaret (Jones) Prichett, he a native of North Carolina, and she of Indiana. John L. Prichett came to Indiana in 1862 and, in connection with farming operations, ran a mill and followed the cooper's trade. He was a very handy man with tools and his services were much in demand. He was a hard working and prosperous man, and at the time of his death was the owner of considerable valuable land. His wife afterwards lived with her son Hugh, until her death. To John L. Prichett and wife were born fourteen children, namely: Wesley, of Floyd county, Indiana; James, a saw mill operator at



Fitzgerald, Georgia; Mrs. Hugh Malone; Frank, Jane and George, deceased; Bell, of Gibson county; Tena and Lydia, deceased; Charles, of Knox county, Indiana; Andy, resident of Gibson county; Annie, deceased, and Lucinda, of Gibson county.

To Hugh Malone and wife have been born the following children: (1) Lewis, of Evansville, Indiana, who married Stella Redburn, now deceased, and to them were born two children, Roscoe, deceased, and Leafy G., the wife of Ralph Zimmerman; (2) Will F., who died at the age of thirty six, married Theodosia Decker and they were the parents of three children, Charlotte, May and William H.; Will F. was a farmer, logger and thresherman; (3) Gertrude, who married Edward Weisgarber, a farmer and gardener of Montgomery county, and they were the parents of six children, Gladys, Herbert, Ruby, Isabelle, Rudolph and Delbert.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Malone located on his father's old homestead, in Patoka township, for seven years, and then went west overland with a team to Shawnee county, Kansas, where they remained for one year, returning thereupon to Gibson county and resuming the operation of the old home place. Mr. Malone, after another year, purchased thirty-seven acres of land from Thomas Morton, which he later sold and then bought his present fine home place at "Taft Town," just northeast of Princeton, where he has since engaged in gardening and the raising of fine fruit.

Mr. Malone is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, while his religious affiliation is with the General Baptist church.

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## JOHN BIEGER.

A review of the life of the honored subject of this memoir must of necessity be brief and general in its character. To enter fully into the interesting details of the career of the late John Bieger, touching the struggles of his early manhood and the success of his later years, would far transcend the limits of this article. He filled a large place in the ranks of the active, energetic and public-spirited citizens of his day and generation, and the memories which attach to his name and character form no inconsiderable chapter in the history of his adopted home, where he did his work and achieved his success.

John Bieger was a native of Germany, born in Hessen, Darmstadt, Germany, March 2, 1833, and died at his home in Princeton, January 14, 1912.



His father and mother both died when he was quite young and he was brought up by his grandparents. He received an excellent education in the old country, the grandparents intending him for the priesthood. However, the thought of America and its opportunities was attractive to him and when he was eighteen years old he set sail for this country. He took out his naturalization papers in 1857. After landing in America, he came almost directly to Princeton, Indiana, and secured employment with a Mr. Boswell in his blacksmith shop, where he was to learn the trade. He remained with Mr. Boswell for several years and later had a shop of his own on the corner of Prince and Broadway streets, in Princeton, in which he did a thriving business for a great many years before he retired. He arrived in Princeton wholly without friends and unable to speak the English language, and in a comparatively short time he learned the blacksmith trade, and in a few years had the largest carriage and buggy blacksmith shop in the county, and his business increased so rapidly that he employed as many as twenty-five men at times and operated four and five forges. In 1887 he also started a dairy business, and his son, who manages the business today, has a fine herd of full blooded Jersey stock and makes a specialty of supplying cream to a large and increasing patronage. Mr. Bieger had unusual business ability, and coupled with that, his undoubted honesty and integrity placed him high in the estimation of his fellow business men as well as all others with whom he came in contact.

John Bieger was twice married. His first wife was Susan Boswell, of Princeton, and after her death he married Mary E. Richey, of this county, a daughter of Chadwick and Matilda (DePriest) Richey. The Richey family were originally from Tennessee and were among the early settlers of Gibson county. The parents died when Mrs. Bieger was a small child. To John Bieger and his wife, Mary, were born three children: a child which died in earliest infancy; William, who also died when small, and Van, who was born in Princeton, and has lived here practically all his life. Van received his education in the schools of Princeton, and when quite a young man was a salesman for Wolfe & Company, Welborn & Moser and Alva Levi, of Princeton. He continued in this line until it devolved upon him to take care of the business his father had built up, since which time he has been giving it the same assiduous care it received from his father.

On January 21, 1907, Van Bieger was united in marriage to Judith Long, of St. Louis, Missouri, daughter of George W. and Adeline (Chennethworth) Long, of Shawneetown, Illinois. The father was a carpenter who

died in 1901; the mother died in 1900. To Van Bieger and wife has been born one child, Alvena, born April 14, 1908.

John Bieger was one of the patriotic sons of the United States who, though foreign born, was anxious to show his love for his adopted country and early in the Civil War he enlisted in Company A, Eightieth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served three years as wagon master. At the close of the war, he returned to Princeton and resumed his business. All through life, Mr. Bieger was a devout communicant of the Catholic church and gave liberally of his time and means to its support. He was also a member of Archer Post, No. 28, Grand Army of the Republic, at Princeton. John Bieger, by his industry and perseverance, together with right principles of living, raised himself from a poor boy to a position of affluence and became the head of a family known throughout Gibson county, liked and respected by all. In every community are to be found individuals who, by reason of pronounced ability and forceful personality, rise superior to the majority and command the homage of their fellows. Of this class was John Bieger, whose life on earth is closed, but who still lives in the hearts that love and respect him and in his works here on earth.

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### R. L. HUSSEY.

Specific mention is made of many of the worthy citizens of Gibson county within the pages of this work, citizens who have figured in the growth and development of this favored locality and whose interests have been identified with its every phase of progress, each contributing in his sphere of action to the well being of the community in which he resided and to the advancement of its normal and legitimate growth. Among this number is he whose name appears above, peculiar interest attaching to his career from the fact that practically his entire life has been passed within the borders of this county.

R. L. Hussey, well known throughout southern Indiana as traveling salesman and manager of S. M. Hess & Bro., of Philadelphia, manufacturers of fertilizer, was born October 26, 1850, on his father's homestead in Center township, Gibson county. His paternal grandfather was Richard Hussey, originally of Lebanon, Maine, born May 24, 1789, and died April 15, 1851. On October 4, 1811, he was united in marriage to Aphia Mills in Belgrade township, Kennebec county, Maine. She was born January 27, 1791, and

died May 29, 1841. Their family comprised thirteen children, as follows: Elbridge M., born in Belgrade township, Kennebec county, Maine, July 9, 1812, died April 15, 1878; Julian Page, born in Rome, Maine, January 22, 1814; Zachariah, born in Lebanon, Maine, October 25, 1815; James Madison, born June 8, 1817, in Belgrade township, Kennebec county, Maine, father of the immediate subject of this sketch; George B., born May 17, 1819, in Washington county, Ohio; Ansel Alexander Hamilton, born in Washington county, Ohio, November 16, 1821; John Hibbard, born July 26, 1822, in Gibson county, Indiana; Clara, born in Gibson county, March 19, 1824; Charles Wellington, born in Gibson county, May 18, 1826; Elizabeth Ann, born in Gibson county, April 11, 1828; Richard Perry, born in Gibson county, April 4, 1830; Martha M., born in Gibson county, March 24, 1833; Alpha Louisa, born in Gibson county, October 15, 1835.

When, in 1817, Richard Hussey and wife left their home in Kennebec county, Maine, to try their fortunes further west, their family comprised four children. They first located in Washington county, Ohio. He was a cabinet maker by trade and was considered an unusually fine workman in those days when all furniture was hand-made. He was also a blacksmith and skilful with all kinds of tools. In 1821 they left Ohio, coming to Gibson county, Indiana, and located about five miles east of Princeton in Center township. He secured a tract of wild land which he commenced to clear, put up a cabin home and a blacksmith shop and here the family lived for several years, the mother dying on the place. People came from near and far to have him do work for them and in this way he formed a wide acquaintance and no man was better known or more respected in his day.

James Madison Hussey, son of Richard Hussey and father of the subject of this sketch, was one of the children of the family born in Maine and brought when a young child to Ohio and later to Gibson county. In his youth he received but limited schooling, owing to the poor opportunities offered, and being one of the oldest children of the family, much of the work about the homestead fell to his lot. He remained at home until he married, when he rented part of his father's farm and later bought a portion of it. His wife was Sarah Patterson, born September 2, 1827, in Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, a daughter of Robert and Rebecca (Wilson) Patterson. When Sarah was but a small child, her parents left their home in Pennsylvania and came to Xenia, Ohio, later coming on to Gibson county, Indiana, where they settled in Center township near the Hussey homestead. The father died shortly after their arrival in Gibson county. There were four children in

the family: James, who lived in Princeton; Harriet, who married a Mr. Shaw, went back to Pennsylvania and died there; Sarah, who became the wife of James Madison Hussey, and Samuel, who died in Center township.

To James Madison Hussey and wife were born the following children: Henry W., born November 15, 1845, in Gibson county, a farmer of Canada, married Mollie J. Harberson October 13, 1869; Robert Dale Owen, born in Gibson county May 16, 1848, married Eliza J. McClellan December 15, 1870. He was in the Civil War, serving three years in Company D, One Hundred and Twentieth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry. His death occurred May 3, 1877, and his widow married the second time L. B. Wallace, a druggist at Francisco, Indiana. The third child was Richard Louis, the subject of this sketch; Franklin C., born in Gibson county January 15, 1852, died November 29, 1855, at the age of three years; Etta Elmira, born in Gibson county April 10, 1855, married Alonzo C. Dilday, of Princeton, on September 25, 1873; James M., born in Gibson county March 11, 1857, a farmer on part of the old Hussey homestead in Center township, married Isabelle Ingram November 10, 1880; Joseph Devin, born in Gibson county August 1, 1859, a retired farmer residing in Princeton, whose first wife was Jeremiah E. McFetridge, married August 22, 1883, and whose second wife was Rose Langford; Arabella M., born in Gibson county June 23, 1862, married in September, 1881, the widow of Isaac M. Eby, of Warrick county, Indiana. He was a farmer and died December 8, 1898, leaving two children, Earl Hussey and Allen Dale.

James Madison Hussey, father of this interesting family, devoted his energies to agriculture and owned and operated a flour mill and a sawmill before the war on the banks of the Patoka river at Kirksville, now known as Wheeling. On August 11, 1862, he took up arms in the Civil War, enlisting in Company B, Sixty-fifth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, as first lieutenant. He did not live long after leaving home and died on November 2d of the same year at Henderson, Kentucky. The body was brought home and interred in Lawrence cemetery with all the honors of war. The widow continued to make her home on the old place until her death, March 18, 1898. She was of a deeply religious temperament, an earnest work in church circles and a consistent member of the United Presbyterian church for fifty-five years. She was a woman much loved and respected by all and spared no effort to rear her family in a proper manner.

R. L. Hussey received his elementary education in the public schools of Gibson county, later attending the Oakland City Normal School. He fitted

himself for a teacher in the public schools and for seven years followed this vocation. He went to Francisco, Indiana, and served as trustee of Center township for two years. Also for eleven years he was railroad and express agent for the old "Air Line" railroad at Francisco and built the first depot at that place. He also had charge of the mail. In addition to these duties he was a grain dealer and owned a half interest in a hardware store in partnership with Samuel McConnell, where, in addition to the regular line, he was agent for a complete line of farming tools and implements. He also at one time had a flour and feed mill there. He was nominated for county auditor on the Democratic ticket in 1892, but was defeated. He removed from Francisco to Princeton and in 1896 was again a candidate for the office of county auditor and again met defeat, both times on account of the Republican party having an overwhelming majority in the county. He has always taken an active interest in politics and has done much for his party. In 1897 he became connected with S. M. Hess & Bro. of Philadelphia, as elsewhere stated, and this connection has been in force for the past sixteen years. Mr. Hussey is a man of ability and tireless energy and stands as an example of what a young man with determination and right principles can accomplish alone and unaided. Each year of his life has placed him higher in the estimation of his large circle of friends and acquaintances and he is well worthy the high esteem in which he is held. Mr. Hussey has been a member of Lodge No. 64, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of Princeton since 1895 and has filled all of the chairs in the local lodge. He was also made camp district deputy grand patriarch of Gibson county for the national encampment held in Indianapolis in 1911. He is also a member of the Daughters of Rebekah, the woman's degree in Odd Fellowship.

Mr. Hussey has been twice married. In 1889 he was united in wedlock with Luella May Whiting, of Francisco, Indiana, a daughter of Captain C. C. Whiting, of Francisco, who died August 5, 1890. To this union were born two children, namely: Luella Ray, the wife of Jacob E. McTurry, of Greencastle, Indiana, parents of one child, Mary Ella, and Dora Edna, who died at the age of seven years. On October 29, 1896, Mr. Hussey was married to Amelia Beck, of Princeton, daughter of Valentine and Catherine (Heckman) Beck, natives of Germany. They came to Princeton in 1853 when young and unmarried, their marriage taking place in 1855. He was a shoe maker in his earlier years and later a shoe merchant in Princeton until 1898. His death occurred in 1908 and his wife still lives in Princeton.

Mrs. Amelia Hussey was born in Princeton on April 29, 1860. Mr. and Mrs. Beck were the parents of several children, of whom Amelia is the present Mrs. Hussey. To Mr. Hussey, by his second marriage, have come three children: Ruth Lucile, born July 8, 1898; Richard Louis, Jr., born May 20, 1901, and Helen Amelia, born January 31, 1903. Their home is a pleasant center for the life of the neighborhood, the family being rightly numbered among the leading ones of the community.

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### W. A. BARNETT.

It is by no means an easy task to describe within the limits of this review a man who has led an active and eminently useful life and by his own exertions reached a point of honor and trust in the line of industries with which his interests are allied. But biography finds justification, nevertheless, in the tracing and recording of such a life history, as the public claims a certain property interest in the career of every individual, and the time invariably arrives when it becomes desirable to give the right publicity. It is, then, with a certain degree of satisfaction that the chronicler essays the task of touching briefly upon such record as has been that of the subject who now comes under this review.

W. A. Barnett, well-known business man and agriculturist of Gibson county, is the son of Robert and Mary Barnett and was born August 24, 1859, on the family homestead about a mile and a quarter southwest of Hazleton. He received his early education in the district schools of the county and early showed his unusual business ability, for at the tender age of twelve or thirteen years, with the assistance of his mother, from whom he probably inherited his business ability, he rented and conducted successfully a large farm. Wishing to engage in other lines of activity later, he gave his attention to different enterprises, among them being a grocery store and later an hotel. In 1880 he decided to take charge of the old homestead, which had come into his possession, part of which he had inherited through the death of his parents and the rest he had acquired by buying out the interests of other heirs. He was as eminently successful in this enterprise as in others, but was not content to confine his activities to that vocation. After a few years he became associated with the Challenge Wind Mill and Feed Mill Company of Batavia, Illinois, and for ten years was their general state agent for Indiana. In connection with this work he had tried to continue the operation of his farm, but finding the various interests too much to handle, he

removed his family to Hazleton in 1897. In February of 1903 he purchased a building on Mill street, Hazleton, from T. N. Davidson, and in this building placed a full line of farm tools and machinery. His success in this endeavor can not be questioned, yet he again longed for the life of the farm, and in 1905 returned to his homestead and the vocation of farming, where he has since remained. He engages in general farming along modern methods, and in addition to this, gives particular attention to raising seed corn for the market. He is the only licensed corn judge in Gibson county and is a member of the Purdue staff. Mr. Barnett originated and furnished the seed corn for the first boys' corn contest held in Gibson county, January 19, 1911, at Princeton. The picture of the boys who took part in the contest are found elsewhere in this volume, as well as an article on the contest. He also raises considerable live stock of good breeding and is in every respect a thoroughly successful and up-to-date agriculturist.

On November 14, 1888, Mr. Barnett was united in marriage with Carrie Beck, of Princeton, daughter of Martin and Mary (Emblee) Beck, the former a native of Ohio and she of Gibson county. To their union have been born eight children, the eldest of whom, Arthur, is engaged in farming in White River township in this county. Mary, while engaged in teaching in the public schools of Hazleton, makes her home with the parents, as do also the rest of the family, namely: Sarah E., Wilbur, Martha, Miriam, Zelia and Chester. The family is considered one of the foremost in their community and beneath their hospitable roof there is always a warm welcome for friend and casual guest alike.

Politically, Mr. Barnett is a Democrat and while he does not seek office for himself, his influence is counted upon by those who do seek that honor. His religious membership is with the Cumberland Presbyterian church, to whose support he gives of his means. His fraternal affiliation is with the time-honored body of Free and Accepted Masons, being a member of blue lodge No. 420; he is also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, No. 389, at Hazelton, and the Modern Woodmen of America. In every avenue of life's activities he has performed his part to the best of his ability, believing that anything worth doing at all is worth doing well, the result being that he has won and retains to a notable degree the confidence and respect of all who know him. He has a large number of acquaintances, among whom are many loyal, stanch and devoted friends and wherever he goes he receives a hearty welcome. Because of his high personal character and his genuine worth as a man and citizen, he is specifically entitled to mention in a work of this character.



## HENRY SUHLING.

It is proper to judge of the success and status of a man's life by the estimation in which he is held by his fellow citizens. They see him at his work, in his family circle, in his church, at his devotions, hear his views on public questions, observe the outcome of his code of morals, witness how he conducts himself in all the relations of society and thus become competent to judge of his merits and demerits. After a long course of years of such observation, it would be out of the question for his neighbors not to know his worth, because as has been said "Actions speak louder than words." In this county there are nothing but good words heard for the subject of this sketch, a man born on a foreign soil and who, after much wandering, has taken up his abode in Gibson county and by his honor, integrity and sterling worth has placed himself in an enviable position in the regard of his community.

Henry Suhling is a native of Kessel, near Moscow, Russia, where he was born on August 4, 1831, the son of Henry and Ann Adelade (Brining) Suhling, she a native of Russia and he a native of Germany. The father was a man of vast learning, a doctor and lawyer, and possessed of considerable landed interests. There were nine children in the family, all of whom were brought up in the faith of the Lutheran church. They emigrated to Germany when the subject was three years old. The parents and the rest of the children always remained in Germany, but Henry, subject of this sketch, together with his brothers, John and Albert, emigrated to this country. It was on March 12, 1845, that Henry Suhling bade farewell to his parents and set out to take passage for America. He was enabled to work for his passage over and earned six dollars in addition. The vessel was six weeks in crossing, but finally reached the harbor at New Orleans. Then began a period of travel for the young emigrant, during which he was in fourteen states and worked at various employments. In January of 1861 he was at St. Louis, Missouri, where he enlisted in Company C, First Missouri Regiment, under command of General Rosecrans. He served in the army for three years, receiving his honorable discharge in 1865. After the close of the war he was for a time in New York City, Cincinnati, Ohio, Evansville, Indiana, and different places and finally came to Gibson county. He had been here once before, in 1848, when he had visited an uncle and had worked as a farm hand on the farm which later came into his possession.

In 1868 he united in marriage with Catherine Weaver, a native of Pennsylvania, who died March 13, 1910, at the age of seventy-nine years and



thirteen days. He has always been a farmer and after he settled in Gibson county he secured ninety acres of land which served as a nucleus of his present possessions, one hundred and sixty acres of valuable land in Patoka township. He has always followed up-to-date methods in managing his farm and has been equally successful in stock raising. To him and his wife were born three children: Henry J., who farms on the old homestead in Patoka township; Clara Catherine, wife of Philip Brakmeier, a farmer of Patoka township and mother of two children, Emma and Clifford, and John Albert, unmarried, who is associated with his brother on the home place. Some seven years ago Mr. Suhling retired from an active life. He is a man wonderfully preserved for his years, with an excellent memory, and who has many interesting things to tell of his earlier experiences.

Mr. Suhling is a member of the Lutheran church, as was also his wife and children. He is also a member of the time honored Grand Army of the Republic and in every relation of life stands high in public estimation. He is a worthy representative of that foreign-born element which has played such an important part in the development of our state, and is well entitled to representation in this work. He has always been actively interested in everything which tended to promote the development of the community and has been confidently counted on at all times to indorse any progressive measures and to uphold everything which stands for the best interests of the people. During his long residence here he has not only gained the confidence of his fellow business men, but as a man of force of character, upright and honest in his dealings with his fellow citizens, he has gained the esteem of all who know him and has a great number of warm personal friends.

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#### CHARLES K. PARRETT.

It is with pleasure that the biographer has an opportunity to place before the readers of this work the life record of the honorable gentleman whose name initiates this paragraph, for he is deemed eminently worthy of representation along with the best and most industrious citizens of Gibson county, owing to the fact that he belongs to the energetic and enterprising class that has made this favored section one of the most noted and richest in the great Hoosier state. Enjoying distinctive prestige as a farmer, he has achieved marked success, while his practical intelligence, mature judgment

and sound business principles have had much to do in molding public sentiment in the community where he has long maintained his home.

Charles K. Parrett, who, for the past twenty-five years, has resided on his fine farm of three hundred acres in White River township, Gibson county, is a native of this county. He was born on May 4, 1867, a son of R. M. and Ann E. (Hudleson) Parrett, both natives of the Hoosier state and she of White River township. R. M. Parrett came to Gibson county before there were any railroads completed in this section of the state. He desired to attend DePauw University, then known as Asbury College, at Greencastle, Indiana, and made the journey from his home in Evansville to Greencastle on horseback. There he studied theology and was later ordained a minister in the Methodist Episcopal church. He was well known throughout Gibson county, having followed his calling in various sections. To him and his wife were born ten children, of which the subject of this sketch is the eighth in order of birth.

Charles K. Parrett received his elementary education in the common schools of Gibson county, later attending the normal school at Danville, Indiana. On February 23, 1888, he was united in marriage to Anna Robb, daughter of David and Phoebe A. Robb, born February 23, 1866. To their union were born three children, namely: Nora, wife of Ross Key, who resides on a farm in Patoka township, Gibson county; Eva M., at home, and Ruth, the youngest daughter, who is attending high school.

As an agriculturist, Mr. Parrett is numbered among the best in the county, his thorough methods and up-to-date ideas marking him as a man of mature judgment and wise discrimination. He is a man of good business principles and has so conducted his affairs as to reap a gratifying return for his labor. He is a man who takes an interest in the financial affairs of his neighbors and friends and his advice and material assistance is often sought along this line. In addition to carrying on general farming along modern methods, he pays special attention to raising high grade cattle and hogs. The farm he occupies is his old family homestead, endeared through many years' associations.

Mr. Parrett is a staunch Republican of the old school and has taken an active interest in politics, while not wishing office for himself. The family takes a part in the affairs of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which Mr. Parrett is a member, and does much to further the interests of that society.

Because of the part Mr. Parrett has taken in the upbuilding and progress of the community, he has merited the high esteem in which he is held among

his fellow men. He has given his support to all movements which have had a tendency to advance the moral, educational or social interests of the people and among those who know him best, he is considered one of the best men in this section of the county.

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### BYRON S. SPAIN.

To write the personal record of men who have raised themselves from humble circumstances to positions of responsibility and trust in a community is no ordinary pleasure. Self-made men, men who have achieved success by reason of their personal qualities and left the impress of their individuality upon the business and growth of their place of residence and affect for good such institutions as are embraced in the sphere of their usefulness, unwittingly, perhaps, build monuments more enduring than marble obelisk or granite shaft. Of such, we believe, is the gentleman whose name appears above.

Byron S. Spain, who owns two hundred and sixty acres of finely located land in White River township, Gibson county, Indiana, and is now living quietly in his comfortable home, is a native of Gibson county, born within its borders on December 12, 1849. He is a son of William A. and Jemima (McFetridge) Spain, both of whom were natives of Gibson county. William A. Spain was among the earliest children born in this county, and passed his entire life here. He was born May 4, 1828, and died in November, 1886, having been engaged in farming all his life. The death of his wife occurred in April, 1911. They were the parents of eleven children, of which the immediate subject of this sketch is the eldest.

Byron S. Spain received his early education in the district schools of the county and remained under the parental roof until he reached manhood. When quite young he began to assist his father in his farm work, and has always continued in this line of business. His present spacious acres are well cared for; he employs up-to-date methods in carrying on his work, and his success attests his ability as an agriculturist. Besides carrying on general farming and the business incident to the successful operation of such a farm, he pays particular attention to the raising of a good strain of short horn cattle, Clydesdale horses and Poland China hogs.

On May 1, 1872, Mr. Spain was united in marriage with Arvilla Decker, a daughter of Henry and Margaret (Thompson) Decker. To their union have been born seven children, namely: Margaret, the wife of David Hazelton, who resides in Dalhart, Texas; Fred, who is engaged in farming in

White River township; William W., who resides in Rockport, Indiana, and is cashier in the bank there; Nellie D., wife of E. E. Curtner, of Hazleton, Indiana; Allen G. C., who lives on the farm with his parents and assists in operating the farm; Bessie, who married Wilbur Fisher, of Patoka, Indiana, and Ruth, who remains at home.

Mr. Spain is a staunch Democrat, one who has always taken an interest in the affairs of his party and while not desiring office for himself, his influence is considered of value by those who have such ambitions. There is much that is commendable in his life's record, for he has been found true to every relation of life, and while energy and untiring industry have been salient features of his career, he is equally well known for his uprightness and the honorable methods he has always followed, and for his loyalty to any trust imposed in him. Because of his genial and unassuming disposition and his genuine worth, he enjoys a well deserved popularity throughout his part of the county.

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#### DAVID W. HULL.

In a brief sketch of any living citizen, it is difficult to do him exact and impartial justice, not so much, however, for lack of space or words to set forth the familiar and passing events of his personal history, as for the want of the perfect and rounded conception of his whole life, which grows, develops and ripens, like fruit, to disclose its truest and best flavor only when it is mellowed by time. Daily contact with the man so familiarizes us with his virtues that we ordinarily overlook them and commonly under-estimate their possessor. It is not often that true honor, public or private, comes to a man without basis in character and deeds. The world may be deceived by fortune, or by ornamental or showy qualities, without substantial merit, and may render to the undeserving a fortuitous and short-lived admiration, but the honor that wise and good men value and that lives beyond the grave must have its foundation in real worth, for "worth maketh the man." Not a few men live unheralded and almost unknown beyond the narrow limits of the city or community where their lots are cast, who yet have in them, if fortune had opened to them a wider sphere of life, the elements of character to make statesmen or public benefactors of world-wide fame. Compared with the blazon of fame, which some regard as the real seal or stamp of greatness, there is a lowlier and simpler, and yet true standard whereby to judge them and fix their place in the regard of their fellow men. During his

life of sixty years in Gibson county, its people have had means to know what manner of man David W. Hull is. The record of testimony is ample that he is a good citizen in the full sense of the term, and worthy of honor and public trust, ever doing worthily and well whatever he puts his hand to do—an encomium worthy of being coveted by every man.

David H. Hull was born in Gibson county, Indiana, February 11, 1853, the son of John and Nancy J. (Stormont) Hull, she a native of Gibson county and he of Boston, Massachusetts. In 1835, when a boy, John Hull was brought by his parents to Princeton, Indiana, and passed the most of his life in this county. He spent nine years of his life in New Orleans, where he went to school and studied French. He attended the early subscription schools in Princeton and upon reaching years of maturity, took up the vocation of a farmer. To him and his wife were born eight children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the oldest. Mr. Hull comes of a family whose history is interwoven with the earlier history of Gibson county. His great-great-grandmother, Mary Boyd by name, lived to the unusual age of one hundred and six years, and was the first person to be interred in the old Archer cemetery.

David W. Hull received his elementary education in the district schools of the county, later attending a commercial school at Evansville, Indiana, where he finished his course in 1874. Soon after returning home, he was employed as a bookkeeper by James Little, where he remained until in 1878, when he engaged in farming in the Wabash valley. In 1885 Mr. Hull purchased one hundred acres of well located land in White River township, which served as a nucleus for his present possessions. He now has seven hundred and fifty-five acres, and the manner in which he conducts his business as an agriculturist attests his ability as a man of foresight and correct judgment. He raises graded Shorthorn cattle and Duroc Jersey hogs and is one of the largest melon growers of the county. Of the many acres which he owns, Mrs. Hull claims the distinction of having purchased seventy with money she had earned teaching school. In addition to his interests on his home place, Mr. Hull is also engaged in the banking business at Patoka. He is a heavy stockholder in the Patoka National Bank of Patoka, Indiana, of which institution he has also been president for the last three years.

On March 8, 1882, Mr. Hull was united in marriage with Anna Antell, daughter of John and Nancy (Harbison) Antell, and to their union has been born one child, John F., who was given a good education, finishing at the agricultural department of Purdue University at Lafayette, Indiana. On October 1, 1913, he was united in marriage with Anna Clark, the daughter

of James Clark, of county Donegal, Ireland. John F. is now in full partnership with his father.

Politically, David W. Hull was formerly a Republican, but has been a Prohibitionist for several years. In 1880 he was elected assessor of White River township and discharged the duties of that office to the satisfaction of all. While not especially desiring office for himself, his influence is always counted upon by those in the race. Mr. Hull's religious sympathies are with the Presbyterian church, to whose welfare he gives largely of time and means. He enjoys the distinction of having served his church as an elder for the past twenty years and for the last thirty years has taught a class in the Sunday school. Mr. Hull has lived a life in keeping with the faith he professes and holds an enviable place in the estimation of his great number of friends. Faithful to every trust of life, both public and private, he is honored and respected throughout his native county and is in every way deserving of the regard in which he is held.

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#### JAMES W. ADAMS.

An enumeration of those men of the present generation who have won honor and public recognition for themselves, and at the same time have honored the locality in which they belong would be incomplete were there failure to make specific mention of him whose name forms the caption of this sketch. The qualities which have made him one of the prominent and successful men of Gibson county have also brought him the esteem of his fellow men, for his career has been one of well directed energy, strong determination and honorable methods. In his early business career he met with reverses which would have daunted a man of less spirit, but such difficulties only urged him to more determined effort and he has so managed his affairs as to win large material success.

James W. Adams is a native of Gibson county, born in Princeton on March 24, 1848, the son of Joseph and Catherine (Hunt) Adams, the former a native of Gibson county and the latter of Missouri. The father's family were among the early citizens of the county and added their share to the advancement of the community. To Joseph Adams and wife were born four children, of whom the immediate subject of this sketch is the second child in order of birth.

James W. Adams received his early education in the district schools of Gibson county, being somewhat handicapped in his attendance owing to the

early death of his father, which occurred when James W. was but four years of age. The necessity of contributing his share toward the support of the family compelled him to leave school at an early age. At the age of eighteen years he became an apprentice to the blacksmith trade, at which he worked for three years in Princeton. At the end of that time he decided to take up his residence in Kansas and work at his trade, and he remained there for three years, later returning to Gibson county.

On March 7, 1871, Mr. Adams was united in marriage with Cornelia Robb, daughter of David and Ellen (Decker) Robb, both of whom were natives of Gibson county. There are two children of the family remaining under the paternal roof, Dove B. and Joseph W. Mr. and Mrs. Adams have six grandchildren.

At the time of his marriage, Mr. Adams had saved up four hundred dollars with which to set up housekeeping and purchased a few needed articles to carry on the occupation of farming, which he had decided should be his life work. He arranged for the purchase of a farm of one hundred acres, going heavily in debt for same, but with the cheerful determination to work his way out as quickly as possible. His farm consisted of excellent land, part of which was located in the White River bottoms, and the first year proved disastrous for him, for it was a year of high water and the floods overspread his farm, destroying all his crops. The failure of his crops made it impossible for him to meet the obligations attending his purchase, and he was forced to see his coveted acres slip from his hands. In the face of this almost overwhelming failure his true nature asserted itself and with renewed energy and determination, lighted with hope, he arranged for the purchase of another tract, and this time fortune smiled on him, for he was almost fortunately successful from the start. Through wise management and un-failing industry he has been able to add to his original holdings from time to time, until he is now the owner of nine hundred acres of excellent land, every acre of which attests his ability as an agriculturist who conducts the business of his farm along modern methods.

Aside from his business interests as a farmer, he is also identified with the banking business, being a heavy stockholder in the Patoka National Bank and also serving as vice-president of that institution. Throughout his life, Mr. Adams' business methods have been such as to excite the admiration of those who know him, at the same time inspiring them with absolute confidence in his honesty and integrity.

Politically, Mr. Adams gives his support to the Democratic party, always



taking a keen, though quiet interest, in its affairs. His religious membership is with the Methodist Episcopal church, to whose support he contributes largely.

Mr. Adams is intensely practical in everything he does, and therein lies the great secret of his success. He is a splendid example of the virile, progressive man who believes in doing well whatever is worth doing at all, a man of broad mind, keen discernment and sound judgment. Personally, he is genial and unassuming, easily approached, and in Gibson county where almost his entire life has been spent, he is widely known and held in high regard by all.

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### JAMES GRAY.

Gibson county has attracted emigrants from many foreign nations, but no better class of citizens have come from foreign countries and settled in this county than those who emigrated from Ireland. One of the most substantial citizens of Irish descent in this county is James Gray, to a brief review of whose career the reader's attention is here directed. Mr. Gray was born in Ireland on August 27, 1840, the son of John and Lena (White) Gray, who were descendants of a long and honorable ancestry on both sides of the family. James Gray has a deed that was made by his grandfather in 1755, and he also has a deed which was issued in Ireland to his great-great-grandfather, which is dated 1536. The father of the subject of this sketch never came to America. He was accidentally shot in 1866, while on a hunting trip in Ireland. Mr. and Mrs. John Gray were the parents of five children, the subject of this sketch being the eldest child; Edward lives in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Sarah and Bessie are both deceased and Mrs. Lena West, who is a resident of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

James Gray received his education at Loughbrickland, Ireland, and his boyhood and early manhood was spent on the Emerald Isle, working on his father's farm. He had been married several years when he came to the United States in 1880, and located in Princeton in this county. His marriage occurred on December 23, 1868, to Margaret J. Stott, the daughter of John and Eliza (Black) Stott, natives of Ireland. To Mr. and Mrs. Stott were born three children: Mrs. James Gray; Kathleen, who lives in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Thomas J. Stott, deceased.

Upon coming to this country, Mr. Gray engaged in farming, settling on



a tract of land near Princeton in this county, and by hard work and perseverance he has succeeded in acquiring a fine farm of four hundred acres, where he is now living. In addition to his general farming, he makes a specialty of breeding and raising Shorthorn cattle and large draft horses, in which lines of endeavor he has been very successful. His stock always brings a high price in the market.

To Mr. and Mrs. Gray have been born nine children: John; Florence, the wife of Faulkner B. Small, who lives in Ireland; Mrs. Edith Morrison, who resides in Tennessee; Helena K., who was a physician, but is now deceased; Edward, who is a civil engineer in California; James E., living in Louisville, Kentucky; Mrs. Bessie Archer, who lives on a farm in this county; Mrs. Ella Matier Pate, a resident of Bloomfield, Indiana, and Mrs. Susan M. Kennedy, who lives in Canada. Mr. Gray also has nine living grandchildren. He has always been known to be a great family man and takes a great deal of interest in his children and grandchildren. He has given his children the best opportunities which the schools of his county offered.

Mr. Gray has been a great traveler in his life, having made no less than eleven different trips to Ireland and intends to go there again in the year 1914. He has been a Democrat since coming to this country and is much interested in political affairs, although he has never been a candidate for any office. Religiously, he and his family are members of the Presbyterian church, his wife's father having been a Presbyterian minister. In the comparatively short time which Mr. Gray has lived in this country he has shown all those admirable qualities which make the good American citizen. He has contributed liberally in a material way to the advancement of the community in which he has lived and has won friends everywhere by his gentle and unassuming demeanor.

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#### FRED H. OHNING.

The strong, true men of a people are always benefactors. Their usefulness in the immediate and specific labors they perform can generally be defined, but the good accomplished through the influences and forces they put in motion and the inspiration of their presence are immeasurable by any finite gauge or standard of value. It is by no means an easy matter to estimate a man's worth to a community while he lives; it is not until after he has been called away that the public begins properly to appreciate his virtues

and services and to measure his influence by the many little acts as well as large achievements which, unseen at the time, enter so largely into the business and social life of the community and give character and tone to its various lines of development and growth. No class of citizens in Indiana has been of more benefit to the state than have the sturdy descendants of German parentage. Gibson county is fortunate in having a large number of these good people, and among them is the subject of this sketch.

Fred H. Ohning, the present efficient superintendent of the Gibson county poor farm, was born in Vanderburg county, Indiana, on October 9, 1857. His parents, Henry and Minnie W. (Shnelle) Ohning, were both natives of Germany, his father coming to this country several years before the Civil war and settling first at Evansville. About 1862 his father moved to Gibson county and followed the occupation of a farmer until his death, September 12, 1912, his wife having died in 1895. To Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ohning were born eight children, the subject of this sketch being the oldest child. Fred received his early education in the district schools of his county and early in life started out to make his fortune. For several years he was engaged in the saw-mill business and at the same time operated a threshing machine in the summer. By his honest dealings with his customers he built up a large and lucrative business throughout the county. Recognizing in him an able and efficient administrative man, the Gibson county commissioners in June, 1909, appointed him as superintendent of the county poor farm and in January, 1914, he was re-appointed for four years. At the time this sketch was prepared there were two women and twenty-two men being cared for on the farm. There are two hundred acres in the farm and all but twenty-five acres are under cultivation at the present time. Under the excellent management of Mr. Ohning the farm is yielding from six hundred dollars to one thousand five hundred dollars in net proceeds each year, which goes to show that it is in very capable hands.

Mr. Ohning was married on February 6, 1883, to Hannah W. Niekamp, the daughter of William F. and Hannah Vomhaner. The parents of Mrs. Ohning were both natives of Germany and to them were born four children: Mrs. Anna White, Fort Branch, Indiana, who has four children; Amelia, who is still at home; Mrs. Emma Bilderback, whose husband is a farmer in Patoka township, and has one child; and Lydia, who is still residing at home.

Mr. Ohning is affiliated with the Democratic party in politics, but has never held any other office than the one he now holds. His fraternal con-

nections are confined to the Woodmen of the World, he being a charter member of Buck-skin Lodge, Number 64. His religious faith is that of the Evangelical church and he and his family are interested in the various activities of that denomination.

The subject of this sketch stands for the best type of citizenship and because of his impregnable honor and high integrity he has won the confidence and esteem of a large circle of friends and acquaintances. He is progressive and awake, manages the affairs of the poor farm according to true business principles and has achieved a flattering measure of popularity and success. He has made his presence in the county a potent force for good and his present standing as a representative man has been fairly and honorably earned.

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#### WILLIAM E. McELDERRY.

There is no positive rule for achieving success, and yet in lives of successful men there are always lessons which might well be followed. The man who gains prosperity is he who can see and utilize the opportunity that comes in his path. The essential conditions of human life are ever the same, the surroundings of individuals differ but slightly; and when one man passes another on the highway of life to reach the goal of prosperity before others who perhaps started out before him, it is because he has the power to use advantages which probably encompass the whole human race. Today among the prominent citizens and successful men of Gibson county, Indiana, stands William E. McElderry. The qualities of keen discrimination, sound judgment and executive ability enter very largely into his make-up and have been contributing elements to the material success which has come to him.

William E. McElderry was born March 21, 1852, on a farm near Jamestown, Greene county, Ohio, the son of Israel McElderry, who was born December 17, 1806, in Washington county, Pennsylvania. Israel McElderry joined the Presbyterian church and was made an elder. Throughout his life he was an earnest church worker, and he was eminently deserving of the admiration and respect in which he was held. He started in life penniless, having to borrow the money to buy a coat. In his younger days he learned the woolen manufacturing business and in 1840 removed to Greene county, Ohio, and engaged in farming until his death at Carrollton, Ohio. At one time he and William Johnson were the largest sheep owners in the state of Ohio, but cholera attacked their flocks and most of their sheep died. He sold his

interests in Ohio for ten thousand dollars in gold. As a young man Israel McElderry taught school, was a civil engineer and followed surveying for a time. He was a very intelligent man, with a splendid education and was a leader in his day. A stanch Republican, it was his habit to "stump" the county in campaign times in the interests of that party. His father was Daniel McElderry, of Scotland, and came to Carroll county, Ohio, where he died. In 1855 Israel McElderry went overland to Olmstead county, Minnesota, where he with other pioneers secured land, Mr. McElderry getting one hundred and sixty acres, which he cleared and developed, and so successful was he in his agricultural work that he became possessed of thirteen hundred acres of land in Olmstead and Steele counties, Minnesota.

Israel McElderry was twice married, first to Margaret Jane Thomas, the daughter of Daniel Thomas, of Amsterdam, Ohio, and she died in her twenty-ninth year on July 12, 1848. Her parents both died in Amsterdam, Ohio. His second wife was Catherine (Thomas) Carlisle, a sister of his first wife, born in Steubenville, Ohio, November 22, 1806, and is now deceased. Subject's father was a man of exemplary habits and Christian character. It was said of him that he never used a profane word in his life. To Israel McElderry and his first wife were born the following children: (1) Jonathan is a farmer in South Dakota, and also works at the carpenter's trade. He was a soldier in the Civil war, a member of Company A, Second Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He married Jennie Hale. (2) Daniel was also in the Civil war and was wounded December 7, 1864, in the second battle of Murfreesboro and died January 6, 1865. (3) Margaret, who lives at Cromanton, Florida, is the widow of Christopher Ecker, a carpenter of Canal Dover, Ohio. (4) Arabella is the wife of Frank Cummings, a farmer of Bonella, South Dakota. By Israel McElderry's second marriage the following children were born: (1) William E. (2) Charles died May 10, 1881. (3) Abraham is employed at the Great Northern car works at Devil's Lake, North Dakota.

William E. McElderry's maternal grandfather, John Thomas, lived in Steubenville, Ohio, where he was a dry goods merchant, and owning a blacksmith shop and other establishments and conducting the leading hotel.

Acquiring a limited education in the common schools, Mr. McElderry remained on the home place until he reached the age of twenty-eight, when, on September 24, 1879, he was united in marriage to Louie C. Rouzer, the daughter of Hon. W. H. Rouzer, who was mayor of Dayton, Ohio, and a printer by trade. This wife died December 24, 1886. After his marriage

Mr. McElderry went to Minnesota and engaged in farming for six years, and then returned to Dayton, Ohio, where he engaged in the produce business a year, later selling nursery stock for the Heikes Nursery Company, of that city. He then became a salesman for Wesley Young, handling ornamental fences and nursery stock through the Eastern states for seven years. He first engaged in the nursery business on his own account at Boonville, Indiana, and was in business there until 1906, when he started the Princeton nurseries, one mile south of the city of Princeton, where he has since been located. Here he has built a beautiful home and has a most complete plant, splendidly equipped for his purposes. His business is very extensive, covering many states, among which are Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Kentucky, Florida and Louisiana.

On March 5, 1891, Mr. McElderry was married a second time to Flora N. Jenkins at Atlantic City, New Jersey, a native of Plumsteadville, Pennsylvania, the daughter of Philip and Deborah (Nash) Jenkins, both natives of the Keystone state.

To the first marriage was born one son, Charles R., who died at the age of thirteen. His second marriage resulted in the birth of a daughter, Vivian P., who is now attending school in Princeton, Indiana.

William E. McElderry is a contributor to all the churches, although he is not a member of any particular denomination. He joined the Masonic fraternity at the age of twenty-one at Chatfield, Minnesota, becoming a member of Meridian Lodge No. 56 at that place. His membership was subsequently transferred, first, to Boonville and then to Princeton. He is a charter member of the Knights of Pythias at Dayton, Ohio, and is also a charter member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Perkaspie, Pennsylvania, while the subject and wife are affiliated with the local chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star.

Mr. McElderry and his wife adopted the child known as "the suitcase baby," February 26, 1913. On February 25, 1913, the baby was found in a suit case on a Louisville & Nashville train at Evansville, Indiana. The baby was about five days old when found and Dr. Benjamin F. Rose and wife, of Evansville, took care of the child until Mr. McElderry and wife adopted it. Samuel Dyer, a brakeman on the train says a young man boarded the train at Henderson, Kentucky, with a suitcase, and inquired if the train went to Evansville. On being informed that it did, he passed through a car, set the suit case on a seat and jumped off the back platform. The brakeman,

thinking that he would return, took no more than passing notice of the incident, until the contents of the suitcase were disclosed. No one was able to identify the young man who left the baby on the train, only a most superficial description of him having been obtained. He was apparently about twenty-two years of age, five feet seven inches tall and wore a slouch hat. Mr. and Mrs. McElderry heard of the incident and at once adopted the baby. It is a beautiful child and has been given the name of Joe Rose McElderry. Some time after Mr. McElderry and wife adopted the baby, Mr. McElderry composed the following poem which is here given as he wrote it:

THE REFRAIN OF THE SUITCASE BABY.

*Abandoned and Put on a Midnight Train, February 25, 1913.*

A wee pink baby at dead of the night,  
Wrapped in a blanket and suit case tight,  
Was placed on the train and sent away  
By a brave young man that sneaked away.  
Oh, wasn't he brave and wasn't he true  
To a wee little baby with eyes so blue.

Oh, what of that mother to hide her shame,  
Abandoned her baby and sent on the train.  
Oh, wasn't she tender and wasn't she true  
To her own darling baby with eyes so blue,  
To cast him aside like a toad in the road,  
The wee pink baby with a heart's overload.

I wonder if ever to herself hath said  
How his little soul will grieve and bleed  
When he knows of his own blood mother's deed—  
Turned from him with a heart of stone;  
How his heart will break and eyes o'erflow  
When he knows of his history long, long ago.

God pity the soul of a woman like she,  
'Twas not the heart of a brute to be  
To give up her offspring to hide her plight;  
To set him adrift in the dead of the night—  
The wee pink baby fresh from the dew,  
The tiny wee baby with eyes so blue.

At four days old they sneaked him away—  
Not in the broad open light of the day;  
Like cowards they hid him with disdain  
And set him adrift on a midnight train.  
An innocent darling, a sweet little boy  
As pure as the God given smile of Aloy.

And here's to the railroad laddie boys  
With hearts as big as the engine's noise;  
And here's to the lady that took him in  
When his body was cold and his eyes were dim.  
But four days old and nearly froze;  
God bless that lady and another Rose.

His flaxen hair and bright eyes of blue  
Have won him a home that will see him through.  
Yes, he has found a dad and a mamma true,  
With smiles for them both, and a sister, new.  
Yes, he loves them all and they love him, true,  
They will stay by the lad and cherish him, too.

TO THE ONES WHO ABANDONED HIM:

You may talk of your riches and wealth and gain,  
But all of your wealth wouldn't get him again.  
You may strut down town with your head so high,  
But God pity your soul when hell's fire burns high.  
May it torture your soul in your dreams abed,  
And be hell to your souls until after you are dead.

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PHILIP J. REINHART.

The nations of the world have contributed of their best blood to the population of the United States, but no nation has given to this country better citizens or more loyal subjects than has Germany. The various revolutions which occurred in Germany in the nineteenth century, while they were unfortunate for Germany, were, on the other hand, a blessing to America, for during the time of these revolutions thousands of the best people of Germany fled to the United States and became eager citizens of this country. No more patriotic citizens fought for the North during the Civil war than did the thousands of German soldiers who enlisted under the Stars and Stripes and fought for their newly adopted country. Wherever a German settlement is found in this country, thrift and material advancement are sure to be seen. Among the many German families who came to this country in the early days of its history, the Reinhart family was one of the most prominent.

Philip J. Reinhart, the son of Jacob and Agnes (Weidner) Reinhart, was born April 18, 1856, in Vanderburg county, Indiana. His parents were born and reared in Germany and married in this country. Philip was the seventh in order of birth of sixteen children born to his parents. His father

was a shoemaker by trade, but when he came to Gibson county he followed agricultural pursuits.

Philip J. Reinhart received a very limited common school education in the district schools of this county. In May, 1881, he was married to Margaret Singer, the daughter of Joseph and Margaret (Habbig) Singer. Both of her parents were natives of Germany. Upon his marriage in 1881, Mr. Reinhart purchased a farm in this county, although he had only five hundred dollars in money in his pocket at the time. He had sufficient confidence in his ability as a farmer to venture upon such a transaction and was compelled to go into debt for part of the amount. Within twenty years he had it all paid for and since that time he has gradually enlarged his holdings until he is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of fine land in the county. In addition to his regular line of farming interests he has operated a threshing machine for several years. He has also made a specialty of breeding and raising Poland-China hogs for some years and has one of the finest droves of this breed which can be found in the county. With the help of his good wife and his children, he has succeeded in acquiring a very comfortable competence.

Mr. and Mrs. Reinhart are the parents of an interesting family of ten children: Albert J., a stock buyer living in Texas; Jacob P., a farmer of this county; Mrs. Tillie Olds, who lives in California; Adam, a farmer of this county; Antone, at home with his parents; Mrs. Anna Reed, of Princeton; Nettie B.; Mary M.; Philip J., Jr., and Louisa M. The last five named are still at home with their parents.

Politically, Mr. Reinhart has always been a stanch Democrat, but has not been a seeker after political honors. He has felt that his interests demanded his careful attention, so he has not thought it possible to take a very active part in politics. He and his family are earnest and faithful members of the Catholic church of Princeton, and contribute liberally of their means to the support of that denomination. They are firm believers in the benefit to be derived from church affiliations and as a result are ever to be found on the right side of all movements which have for their object the bettering of the moral and social life of the community in which they live.

Mr. Reinhart and his splendid family have won the esteem and regard of a large circle of friends and acquaintances. He is one of those self-made men whose business success has been achieved solely by the exercise of everyday common sense and untiring energy. He has always been actuated by noble motives and high resolves and has contributed in his sphere of action to the welfare of his community in no small degree.



## JOHN WRIGHT JONES.

Holding distinctive prestige among the enterprising citizens of Gibson county is John Wright Jones, whose record here briefly outlined is that of a self-made man, who, by the exercise of the talents with which nature endowed him, successfully surmounted an unfavorable environment and rose to the position he now occupies as one of the influential and well-to-do men of the locality honored by his residence. He is a creditable representative of one of the old and highly esteemed pioneer families of southern Indiana and possesses many of the admirable qualities and characteristics of his sturdy ancestors, who came to Indiana in a very early day.

John Wright Jones, who possesses extensive farm lands in Montgomery township, Gibson county, and is considered one of the best agriculturists in that section, was born in the township where he now lives on March 14, 1852, two and one-half miles west of Owensville. He is a son of Franklin and Comfort (Sharp) Jones. Franklin Jones was born near Owensville in 1823 and was a son of Charles and Eleanor (Warrick) Jones, and Charles, in turn, was a son of Cadwallader and Martha (Pitt) Jones, both of whom were natives of England. Martha Pitt was a relative of William Pitt, the great English statesman, and came to America when a young girl. She and Cadwallader Jones were probably married in North Carolina and emigrated to Kentucky, probably near Hopkinsville, where their son Charles was born. Here Cadwallader Jones died and his widow came to Indiana, locating in Gibson county, where she later married Jesse Wells and located on Barren creek about three and one-half miles west of Owensville. Charles accompanied his mother to Indiana and married Eleanor Warrick, daughter of Captain Jacob Warrick, who was mortally wounded in the battle of Tippecanoe. After their marriage, Charles Jones and wife located south of Owensville and there passed the remainder of their lives. Twelve children were born to their union, namely: Mrs. Eliza Waters, Jacob W., Franklin, father of the immediate subject of this sketch, John, Nancy Mauck, William, Robert, who died in infancy, Martha, Thomas Corwin, Marshall and James Smith. Jacob W., who never married, lived near Midland City, Illinois with his brother John and died when he was eighty-eight. He had an excellent memory for family history and was proud of the fact that he cast his first vote for Henry Clay and had heard Abraham Lincoln speak. He was successful financially, and at his death left quite a fortune. John, also, was a man of means, who had lived for many years near Midland City, Illinois. William, who lived on

his father's farm south of Owensville, died March 14, 1908. He was said to be the largest tax-payer in the township. His wife was a Massey. Thomas Corwin Jones lives south of Owensville. His wife, now deceased, was Mary Kesterson and to them were born five children, two of whom are still living. Marshall made his home in Beatrice, Nebraska, and died there, while James Smith Jones died unmarried, on the home farm in Gibson county.

Franklin Jones, father of John Wright Jones, was born just about one-half mile west of where the subject of this sketch now resides. On December 16, 1847, he married Comfort Sharp, born near Cynthiana, a daughter of John Wright and Temperance (Sharp) Sharp. The Sharp family was originally from Carroll county, Maryland, near Baltimore, and in 1799 went to Shelby county, Kentucky, coming to Gibson county, Indiana, about 1833. Benjamin Sharp, father of John Wright Sharp, settled on what is now known as the Franklin Jones estate, about two and one-half miles west of Owensville. They had twelve children, five boys and seven girls, namely: Thomas, John Wright, Talbott, Micajah, Benjamin, Mary Weaver, Hannah Sharp, Nancy Sharp, Cassandra Sharp, Mrs. Sally Pollard, Prudence Pollard and Carolina Montgomery. The mother of this family and the wife of Benjamin Sharp was Elizabeth Wright. The mother of Benjamin Sharp brought with her from Wales a pewter plate, which is now a much-prized heirloom in the family, as is also the family Bible used by him and which is still in practical use.

After his marriage in 1847, Franklin Jones and wife made their home about two and one-half miles west of Owensville, where four of their daughters now reside. Here Comfort Sharp Jones died August 29, 1907 and Franklin Jones died June 16, 1908. All his life he had engaged in agricultural work so far as able, but by the time the subject of this sketch was about eight years old, the father had been so weakened from sickness as to make farming impossible for him and John Wright Jones, while still what would be considered a little boy, felt the burden of a man's responsibilities. He plowed when only eight years old, guided and assisted in all he did by a wise and loving mother, who allowed him to develop his abilities. She herself was an excellent financier and this trait seems to have passed on to her son. When he was but twelve she permitted him to bargain for and trade a horse and at the age of fifteen he took their produce to Evansville and disposed of it to advantage. At the age of twenty-two he purchased his first ground, thirty acres for himself, and did this entirely on credit, agreeing to pay eight per cent. interest on his purchase. This debt was discharged in a surprisingly

short time and from that time on he made various purchases, usually buying one tract for himself and the next for his father. In this way he added between one and two hundred acres to his father's estate before he left home, and counting this, together with what he has purchased for himself from time to time, makes his total purchases amount to over three hundred acres. An enviable record surely, when the tender age at which he started out, and his numerous handicaps, are considered. When forty-eight years of age he settled on his present location, and in addition to general farming he raises short horn cattle, Poland China hogs and Buff Orpington chickens, in all of which he is highly successful.

On May 20, 1908, Mr. Jones was united in marriage with Mrs. Claire H. (Basford) Brumbach, widow of Lucius J. Brumbach. She was born at Greenwich, Ohio, the daughter of Napoleon O. and Mary Isabelle (Cameron) Basford. The Basfords are of English ancestry, the first of them coming to Baltimore, Maryland. Mary Isabelle Cameron, the mother of Mrs. Jones, was the daughter of Charles and Mahala A. (Slater) Cameron, and was of Scotch-English ancestry. Her father was descended from the Cameron clan of Scotland and his people were later in life engaged in weaving business in county Antrim in Ireland and were people of means. The Slater family came to Ohio early in its history and lived in a block-house on account of the danger from the Indians. At one time the family was considered the wealthiest in three counties. Charles Cameron was born in county Antrim, Ireland, in 1818, near the Giant's Causeway. He came to America when about twenty-one years old and made his home with his uncle, James Cameron, about twelve miles from Ashland, Ohio, and thirteen miles from Worcester, near Jeromeville. His uncle had entered land from the government and this same land continued in the possession of the family until about a year ago, when the title to it passed out. Napoleon O. Basford, father of Mrs. Jones, was originally engaged in farming, but for the past twenty years has been in the bakery business most of the time and now resides at Owensville. He was engaged in farming in southern Illinois when Mrs. Jones became the wife of Lucius J. Brumbach, of Odell, Livingston county, Illinois, on June 14, 1899. Mr. Brumbach died in 1906 at St. Petersburg, Florida, whither he had gone in search of health. In the meantime, Mr. Basford had removed to Owensville, and when visiting him, Mrs. Brumbach formed the acquaintance of Mr. Jones, which resulted in their marriage. To them one son has come, John Orlando, born June 7, 1909. This is Mr. Jones' second marriage. His first wife was Dovie Kell, to whom he was married Aug-

ust 30, 1899. She was a native of Kentucky, born and raised near Madisonville, daughter of Westerfield and Sarah Kell. She came to Gibson county when twelve years old and lived with her aunt, Mary Mounts. To John Wright Jones by his first wife were born two children, a son and a daughter. The daughter died when a young child and the mother and son both died at his birth and were buried together.

John Wright Jones stands high in public estimation and can always be counted upon to be actively interested in anything which tends to the moral or material betterment of his community. During his long and industrious career, he has not only gained the confidence of his fellow men in business dealings, but as a man of force and character, upright and honest, he has a warm place in the regard of all who know and appreciate his goodness.

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### CHARLES WILDEMAN.

Among the men who were identified with Posey and Gibson counties during the early history of the state and bore their full share in bringing about the contrast between the distant past and the practical present, the searcher after local records will find frequent mention of the ancestors of the gentleman whose name heads this paragraph. When his father came to this state from Germany his eyes did not behold the pleasing scenes which are now familiar to every resident and visitor. Most of the land was still covered with those famous forests, whose felling and removal constituted the chief labor of the early arrivals. His father took hold manfully with characteristic German determination and by dint of many a hard blow eventually found himself in possession of a large tract of land.

Charles Wildeman, the son of Charles and Sarah (Aker) Wildeman, was born January 6, 1869, in Posey county, Indiana. His parents were both natives of Germany and after first settling in Posey county moved to Gibson county in 1882, shortly after the death of Mrs. Wildeman, the mother of the subject of this sketch. She passed away on February 23, 1881. The senior Charles was one of the largest land owners of the county at the time of his death in July, 1909. He started life poor and knew what hard work meant, but he was a good manager and skilful trader, with the result that he accumulated considerable property before his death.

Charles, the subject of this sketch, was given such educational advantages

as the district schools of his county afforded at the time. He continued to assist his father on the farm until the time of his marriage. He was married on February 14, 1893, to Carrie Stinner, the daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth Stinner. Both of his wife's parents were born in Germany and came to this country many years before the Civil war. Mr. Stinner served throughout the war in Company B, Fifty-eighth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry. Mr. and Mrs. Wildeman are the parents of three children: George, born August 29, 1895; John, born September 25, 1898; Rosa, born October 11, 1896.

Mr. Wildeman has spent all his life on the farm with the exception of four years (1908-1912) when he resided in Princeton. He and his wife own three hundred and thirty acres of well-improved and productive land in Patoka township under a high state of cultivation. In addition to his diversified agriculture, he makes a specialty of the breeding of Hereford cattle. He has won success by consecutive and earnest application and good management, and is known as a careful and straightforward business man, enterprising and progressive, upright in all the relations of life and public-spirited in his attitude. In politics he is staunchly arrayed in support of the principles and policies of the Democratic party, while he and all the members of his family are loyal adherents of the Catholic church.

Mr. Wildeman is a public-spirited citizen who is held in unqualified esteem in the community in which he lives. He is a gentleman of unflinching courtesy and gracious personality and the circle of his friends is coincident with that of his acquaintances. He is an alert business man and a progressive farmer, while it is unnecessary to add that he is thoroughly familiar with all the details of farming. He is doing his share towards building up his community and every project which aims at the improvement of the social, moral, or intellectual life of the community in which he lives finds in him a ready and sympathetic helper. For these reasons he well merits a worthy place in a volume of the representative citizens of Gibson county.

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### JAMES W. HILLMAN.

The record of an honorable, upright life is always read with interest, and it better perpetuates the name and fame of the subject than does a monument, seen by few and soon crumbling into dust beneath the relentless hand of time. Those who have valiantly fought and suffered for their country are especially deserving of an honored place in its annals and their posterity will

turn with a just pride to these records of the founders and preservers of a prosperous, united nation.

James W. Hillman was born in Clay township, Pike county, Indiana, July 6, 1845, the son of Daniel and Mary (Lane) Hillman, he a native of Kentucky, and she of Pike county. Daniel Hillman came to Indiana as a young man with his father, Henry, and they made their home on wild land which they entered, building a cabin and clearing away the dense underbrush and trees in order to plant crops. Daniel Hillman had very little opportunity to attend school, and lived at home with his father until he reached mature years. He then purchased a farm in the western part of Pike county, later acquiring land in Clay township, where he passed the rest of his days. He was well known and highly respected by his neighbors. His first wife was Mary (Lane) Hillman, she dying in 1848. Rachael W. Wright was the second wife of Daniel Hillman, and she died at Newburg, Indiana. They were members of the Regular Baptist church. To Daniel Hillman and his first wife were born the following children: (1) John, deceased, was in Company G, Sixty-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, for three years; (2) Nancy is the widow of Alfred Decker, who served in the Civil war in Company G, Forty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry; (3) Henry, who was a member of Company G, Sixty-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, died in Andersonville Prison. He married Mary J. McCrumell. (4) George, deceased, was a member of Company E, Forty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was wounded in the battle of Perrysville, and he was then honorably discharged and returned to his home. He was made deaf by the injury. He married Edith Davison. (6) William was in Company K, Twenty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, served three years and died on his return to his home in Pike county. (7) James W., the subject. To Daniel Hillman and his second wife were born six children, as follows: Taylor, deceased; Annie, deceased; Charles Miner married Mary Barrett and lives in Pekin county, Illinois; Dicey, deceased; Hattie and Mary.

Acquiring but little schooling in his boyhood days, James W. Hillman passed his youth on the home farm until he reached the age of seventeen. He then enlisted, July 15, 1862, in Company G, Fifty-sixth Indiana Volunteer Regiment, at Evansville, Indiana, the command to which he was attached being first sent to Henderson, Kentucky, and at that place they started in pursuit of the guerillas, being occupied in this hard and trying duty for about a year. From Kentucky they were sent to Tennessee, being for a while in the eastern part of that state. In April, 1863, they crossed the mountains to the

eastern part of the state and remained there during the following winter. In the spring of 1864 they were in the Atlanta campaign, engaging in the battles at Bluntsville, Briscow, Jonesboro, Danridge, Mossy Creek and a number of skirmishes. In May, 1864, they took part in the Georgia campaign and were in the fighting at Buzzards Hill, Resaca, Altoona and Kenesaw Mountain. Later, with one hundred and twenty-five men to guard the artillery teams and wagons, they went seven miles to Stone Mountain after corn and food, and just as they were loading they were attacked by a large body of Confederates and a two hours' battle ensued. During this fighting Mr. Hillman's mess mate was shot through the heart and Mr. Hillman, dropping his gun, carried the body of his comrade to a wagon. On his return to the firing line he discovered that some one had appropriated his gun, and he was compelled to go through the battle unarmed. Subsequently the command was dispatched in pursuit of Hood in central Tennessee and while on this strenuous detail his shoes gave out and he was compelled to go barefooted for three days. From Rome, Georgia, their next stopping place, they were sent to Dalton and then by train to Nashville, Tennessee, and from there going to Pulaski, where they took up the chase of Hood and engaged his forces in battle at Columbus, Tennessee. About this time Mr. Hillman was seriously ill for a while. Recovering, he was a participant in the battle of Franklin, Tennessee, then went to Nashville for two days, then to Franklin again, where he was on January 1, 1865. From that point Mr. Hillman's command was sent to Clifton, Tennessee, on the Tennessee river, where they remained for three days, and then proceeded to Paducah, Kentucky, and up the Ohio river to Cincinnati, where trains were taken to Washington, D. C. Remaining in Washington three days, they were then sent to Annapolis, Maryland, and from there went by boat to Fort Fisher, marching from Fort Fisher to Wilmington, North Carolina, on the Cape Fear river, a march of two hundred and sixty miles. Later they went to Goldsboro, North Carolina, and had several battles on the way. Joining General Sherman, they marched to Raleigh, North Carolina. After this they were located at Greensboro, North Carolina, and High Point, in the same state, being at the latter point when the war was ended and peace declared. He was mustered out at Greensboro and, after going to Indianapolis to be paid off, returned to his home, July 6, 1865.

February 13, 1873, Mr. Hillman was united in marriage with Elizabeth Atkinson, of Logan township, Pike county, Indiana, a daughter of Andrew Atkinson, a farmer of that county. After his marriage he located first on a farm in Logan township, Pike county, Indiana, and later secured two other



farms in that county. He followed agriculture in that locality until 1898, when he removed to Oakland City, where he has since resided. Since leaving the farm he has run a feed mill and looked after his farming interests.

Mr. Hillman is a consistent and worthy member of the Regular Baptist church at Oakland City, in which body he is a deacon. In political matters, Mr. Hillman gives a stanch allegiance to the Republican party. Although never having been an office seeker in the generally accepted sense of the term, he served very efficiently as a constable in Oakland City. He is a man of remarkable memory, is exceedingly well preserved and is one of the well-known and respected citizens of his community.

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### SIMEON NOBLE.

There are individuals in nearly every community who, by reason of pronounced ability and force of character, rise above the heads of the masses and command the unbounded esteem of their fellow men. Characterized by perseverance and a directing spirit, two virtues that never fail, such men always make their presence felt and the vigor of their strong personality serves as a stimulus and incentive to the young and rising generation. To this class the subject of this review very properly belongs.

Simeon Noble was born February 14, 1833, at Lewisville, Ohio, whither his father, David Noble, had located when as a young man he left his home in Pennsylvania. After locating in Ohio, he took as his wife Rebecca Phillips, a native of New Jersey, whose family had originally come from England. The family of David Noble was of German descent. He remained in Ohio until 1857, when he removed his family to Knox county, Indiana, where he purchased a farm, which he greatly improved, and there engaged in agricultural pursuits for many years. During the latter years of his life he lived in Mt. Carmel, Illinois, in retirement from active labors, and there he died in 1862. His wife had died some years before him, having passed away in 1857. They reared a family of six children, as follows: John, who lived and died in Ohio; Francisco, deceased, who made his home in Mt. Carmel, Illinois; Simeon, the subject of this sketch; David, who lived and died in Ohio, and Joseph, deceased, whose earlier home was also in Ohio, but who later resided in Knox county, Indiana, and who served during the Civil war in the Eighth Indiana Cavalry. The youngest child was Addie, deceased, who was the wife of John Easton, of Mt. Carmel, Illinois. The



family was reared in the faith of the old-school Presbyterian church and David Noble's political sympathy was with the old Whig party.

Simeon Noble attended the county schools at Lewisville, Ohio, and later received instruction in the West Bedford Academy in Ohio for two terms. He remained at home with his father until he enlisted in the army in July, 1864, as a private in Company M, Third Regiment Kentucky Volunteer Infantry, at Vincennes, Indiana. He was first sent to Owensboro, Kentucky, where he was in camp for some time and was then sent to Tallahoussa and on to Nashville. He did scout duty all of the time. He was with the Army of the Cumberland and was in several battles and skirmishes, Stone's River, Pittsburg Landing, Resaca and others. He was discharged in 1863 and re-enlisted in the same company and regiment and was sent to Resaca. He was with General Sherman on his famous march to the sea and remained under his command until the close of the war, taking part in all engagements which that famous command encountered. He was mustered out of service at Raleigh, North Carolina, in the fall of 1865. Having served all during the war and in so many engagements, it is a remarkable fact that he came out of service almost unscathed so far as permanent disability is concerned. He was shot in the hand while guarding a train and also shot in the leg.

In 1864 Mr. Noble was united in marriage with Adelaide Thurgood, of Roscoe, Ohio, though a native of England. To them were born two children, Frank, a stationary engineer at Princeton, who makes his home with his father, and Beatrice, who has always resided at home. Mrs. Noble died on March 19, 1898.

After Mr. Noble was discharged from the army, he went to Vincennes, Indiana, where he engaged in the flouring mill business and continued at that place for a number of years. He later came to Princeton, where he engaged in the same line of business for a number of years before his retirement from the active duties of life, having amassed a competence.

Mr. Noble is a member of Post No. 28, Grand Army of the Republic, at Princeton, and his religious affiliation is with the Methodist Episcopal church, to which he contributes of his time and means. Mrs. Noble was a member of the Presbyterian church. Simeon Noble is a man well known in Princeton, and in fact all over Gibson county, where he has won and holds a large number of friends. The years of his residence here have made him known as a man of honor and integrity, one who stands for all that is uplifting for the betterment of the community. He is a man well preserved for his years and takes pleasure in keeping posted on all questions of the day.

## FRED BUTLER.

It is a pleasure to investigate the career of a successful, self-made man. Peculiar honor attaches to that individual who, beginning the great struggle of life alone and unaided, gradually overcomes unfavorable environment, removes one by one the obstacles from the pathway of success and, by the master strokes of his own force and vitality, succeeds in forging his way to the front and winning for himself a competency and a position of esteem and influence among his fellow men. Such is the record of the popular citizen of Oakland City to a brief synopsis of whose life the following lines are devoted.

Fred Butler, a well known citizen of Oakland City and the present popular and efficient trustee of Columbia township, was born near Millersburg, Warrick county, Indiana, on September 22, 1862. He is the son of John A. and Anna (Hall) Butler, both of whom were natives of England, of sterling families of that merry little isle, and who came to America in 1851, locating at Evansville, Indiana. Subsequently they located at what was known as "Nine Mile House," and later removed to the vicinity of Millersburg, Warrick county, where they remained until 1866, when they came to Pike county, Indiana, where they spent the remainder of their years, their deaths occurring on the farm to which they had given their attention.

The subject of this sketch was reared on the home farm in Pike county and secured his education in the public schools of that locality. He continued the cultivation of the home farm until about seven years ago. In 1885 Mr. Butler bought a farm northeast of Pleasantville, Pike county, and in 1891 he bought a farm six miles southeast of Oakland City, to which he removed and to which he has added until he is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of fine land. In 1902 Mr. Butler left the farm and took up his residence in Oakland City, where he has since remained. Mr. Butler was not only successful as an agriculturist, but for about twelve years he engaged extensively in the buying and shipping of live stock, in which also he met with considerable success. His farm is rendered particularly valuable because of the fact that it is underlaid with a strata of petroleum and gas, the biggest oil well in the state of Indiana being located on his farm, it testing six hundred and thirty pounds pressure.

From his youth Mr. Butler has taken an active interest in local public affairs, and before he had attained his majority he was nominated for the position of constable and was elected three successive terms while residing in Pike county. Soon after coming to Oakland City he was elected a member

of the city council from the third ward. This position, however, he resigned in 1909 in order to accept the office of trustee of Columbia township, to which he had been elected the previous year. He is a staunch Democrat in his political views and has for many years been active in behalf of his party. Fraternally, Mr. Butler is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Court of Honor, being a charter member of the latter organization. In the Odd Fellows he belongs to the subordinate lodge and encampment, and is also a member of the Daughters of Rebekah. Religiously, he is a member of the Primitive Baptist church at Oakland City, as is his wife. When Mr. Butler was elected township trustee the normal Republican majority in Columbia township was one hundred and fifty-five, but Mr. Butler overcame this majority and was elected by thirty-four votes, the same conditions prevailing when he was elected a member of the city council, when he received a Democratic majority of sixty-five in a town which had a normal Republican majority.

On August 15, 1884, Mr. Butler was married to Sarah A. France, the daughter of William C. and Elizabeth France, of Pike county, where she was born and reared. To this union have been born two children, Curtis, born in 1887, and Lillie, born in 1889. Curtis married Etta Hert, and they have one child, Dorothy Jean; Lillie became the wife of Frank Billart, and they live at Oakland City. Through all the years of his residence here Mr. Butler has held the confidence and respect of the people with whom he has mingled and who have esteemed him because of his genuine worth. Of genial disposition, possessing honesty of purpose, genius for devising and executing the right thing at the right time are the chief characteristics of the man and are the concomitants which have insured his success.

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### HENRY J. BRADEMEYER.

A citizen of the United States can bear no greater badge of honor than the distinction of having served the government in the memorable four years of war between the states. It is a sacred family inheritance, to be prized like a jewel by all future descendants and kept bright and untarnished by other acts of valor, patriotism and loyalty in the interests of free government. Even in this day when there are many of the old soldiers living, no one can see them dressed in their faded uniforms without feeling a glow of pride and without showing them studied deference. But the ranks of the old phalanx are fast

going down before the only foe they can not defeat, and ere long none will be left to recount the actual experiences of that memorable four years of sanguinary history. In the meantime, while they are still with us, let us pay them suitable honor for their sacrifices, patriotism, gallantry and sufferings. One of these honored veterans is Henry J. Brademeyer, whose active and useful life furnishes the material for this brief biographical review.

Henry J. Brademeyer was born April 6, 1846, in Burlington, Iowa, the son of William and Henrietta (Rotherl) Brademeyer, natives of Germany. William Brademeyer was born in the Fatherland in 1812 and came alone to America in 1828, locating first at Cincinnati, Ohio, where he engaged in draying for seven years, having been a shepherd and mail carrier before leaving his native land. Subsequently he removed to Louisville, Kentucky, remaining there for fifteen years, and then coming to New Albany, Indiana, he was employed as a watchman for three years. While residing in Louisville, William Brademeyer was married to Henrietta Rotherl, who came from Germany to America in 1830, first residing at Wheeling, West Virginia, later at Cincinnati, Ohio, and finally at Louisville. In 1836 Mr. Brademeyer's father and mother removed to Burlington, Iowa, where he drove a stage and engaged in draying until 1848, when they went overland to California, and in the Golden state the elder Brademeyer drove pack mules for the miners and hauled provisions for a period of three years. They then returned to Burlington, Iowa, and in 1854 removed to Nauvoo, Illinois. Establishing his family comfortably here, William returned to California and engaged in hauling lumber between Sacramento and San Francisco, making his headquarters at Sharkey Flats. He spent three years and seven months at this occupation, and in 1858 he rejoined his family at Dubois, Indiana, they having removed to that place in 1856. Here he engaged in farming the remainder of his life, he and his wife dying in the same year. To them were born the following children: Amanda, of St. Louis, Missouri; Caroline, of Minneapolis, Minnesota; John and Henry were twins and John is living in Huntingburg, Indiana; William H., of Pokers Point, Arkansas; Josephine, of Huntingburg, Indiana; John Wesley and Margaret were twins and both are deceased; Henry J., with whom this narrative deals,

Mr. Brademeyer's early education was acquired under the most adverse circumstances, he being compelled to walk about four miles to school. Remaining on the home farm until he reached his majority, in the fall of 1863 he enlisted in Company M, Tenth Indiana Volunteer Cavalry, his brother, John, joining the same company. From Louisville, Kentucky, the company

was sent to Nashville and Pulaski, Tennessee, and then to Decatur and Stevenson, Alabama, where he did a great deal of guard duty. From this point they were dispatched first to Athens, Alabama, then to Pulaski and Gravel Railroad, near Nashville, Tennessee, and were in all the battles and skirmishes in which the Sixteenth Army Corps was engaged, spending the winter at Gardner Springs. At the end of this trying period they were sent by boat to Vicksburg and then to New Orleans. From there they crossed the Gulf of Mexico on the transport "George Peabody" to Alabama and invading the northwestern part of Florida, where they took part in the siege of Spanish Fort. Later they were in the siege and capture of Fort Blakely. They then came back north through the northern part of Florida and southern Georgia and Alabama and finally crossed the Tallahama river at Georgetown, Georgia. They were at the latter place when they heard the news of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. From Georgetown they went to Montgomery, Alabama, and thence to Columbus. They then went to Vicksburg, Mississippi, where their horses were turned in and they did guard duty for four months, at the end of which period their command was mustered out of the service.

At the close of the war Mr. Brademeyer and his brother John went to Dubois county, Indiana, and farmed for several years, subsequently learning the brick mason's trade at Holland, Indiana. John married Lottie Stillwell and engaged in agricultural pursuits in Pike county, Indiana, which he followed for several years, and then went to Holland, Indiana, and worked at his trade, later locating at Huntingsburg, where he now resides.

In 1871 Mr. Brademeyer went to Pike county, Indiana. He married Mary E. White, of Warrick county, Indiana, the daughter of Henry and Nancy (Long) White, of near Boonville. Her father was a member of Company K, Fifty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and died while in the service. His wife passed away in her fifty-fifth year. To Mr. Brademeyer and wife were born: William, who married Emma Moore, and lives in Cairo, Illinois, where he follows the trade of miller; Alice, the wife of Robert Kandle, of Princeton; Nancy, who married William Wilges, both deceased; Hattie, the wife of Jesse Starky, of Peru, Indiana; David, who married Annie Fields, is a fireman at the electric light plant at Princeton.

After his marriage Mr. Brademeyer farmed in Pike county, Indiana, for four years and then removed to New Port, Arkansas, and later to Greenville, Missouri, where he engaged in agriculture, subsequently returning to Indiana and locating at Holland, Dubois county, where he engaged in team-

ing and later worked at his trade as a brick mason. While in Holland he served as deputy sheriff two terms and also as constable for nine years. In November, 1892, Mr. Brademeyer came to Princeton, Gibson county, and bought his present home at 629 East Christian street, since then working at his trade.

In political affairs, Mr. Brademeyer has always given his support to the Republican party. He keeps posted on current events, is a man of excellent memory and is remarkably well preserved for his age.

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### SAMUEL NATHAN KNOWLES.

Among the representative farmers of Gibson county is Samuel N. Knowles, who is the owner of two hundred and eighty-seven acres of fine land in Montgomery township, Gibson county, and is carrying on the various departments of his enterprise with that discretion and energy which are sure to find their natural sequence in definite success. He has always been a hard worker, a good manager and a man of economical habits, and, being fortunately situated in a thriving farming community, it is no wonder that today he stands in the front rank of the agriculturists of this favored community.

Samuel Nathan Knowles, who has been eminently successful in the pursuit of agriculture in Montgomery township, this county, and who has attained a relative degree of prominence in his county by faithful public service, was born June 3, 1864, near Mounts Station in Montgomery township, on the southeast quarter of section 23 and is today living on this same site. He is the son of John Lowery and Patsy (Montgomery) Knowles, his father being born in Gibson county on the same section of land where Samuel A. now lives. His mother, who was a daughter of Colonel William Montgomery, was born about three miles south of Owensville.

John Lowery Knowles, who was born March 1, 1823, was reared near where Mounts Station is now located, and was the son of James Knowles by his second wife, being the only child of that marriage, while James Knowles had a numerous family by his first wife. James Knowles came to Gibson county in the early pioneer days, when Indians were thick in this community, selected the land he desired and received his government patent, dated December 23, 1815, making over to him the southeast quarter of section 23, as above stated. On this land James Knowles and wife passed the remainder of their lives, and were laid to rest near Mounts Station, where their tombstones can still be seen, giving dates of birth and death.

John Lowery Knowles passed his boyhood on his father's farm, assisting in clearing the land and establishing comfortable surroundings, and on November 15, 1846, was united in marriage to Patsy Montgomery, who was born May 4, 1828, daughter of William Montgomery and Peggy (Stone) Montgomery. Her father was born in 1801, the second child of Joseph Montgomery, Sr., and was a very prominent man in the early history of the state. He was a colonel in the early state militia, was county commissioner from 1837 to 1842 and was a member of the state Legislature 1843-4. He was an extremely fine looking man, of excellent bearing and dignity, and was possessed of unusual shrewdness and ability. His home was near Owensville, where he carried on farming in addition to his public duties.

After his marriage in 1846, John Lowery Knowles settled down near Mounts Station on section 23, where he carried on farming the rest of his life. His death occurred October 17, 1905, in his eighty-third year. There were fifteen children born to John Lowery Knowles and wife, five of whom died in childhood and the other ten grew to maturity and made homes for themselves. Of these, Cordelia is the wife of Harvey Lucas; George is county commissioner and lives in the southern end of Montgomery township; Henry lives on section 26, near Mounts Station; Nathan lives in the northwest quarter of section 23, while Francis M. resides on the north side of the same section; Nina is the wife of Jesse Lucas and lives about a mile west of the old Knowles homestead. The mother is still living and makes her home with her children.

At the death of his father, James Knowles, John Lowery Knowles inherited from his estate eighty acres of fine farm land, to which he added from time to time, until at his death he stood possessed of seven hundred acres of fine land. He was an excellent man, full of life and energy and possessed of unusual business ability. He was of happy temperament and highly appreciated a good joke. Desiring to keep his sons by him, he instituted a co-operative system in the operation of his farming interests and thus secured the help of his sons and they shared in the benefits of their united efforts, which proved a most satisfactory arrangement all around. While not an active man in church circles, he attended public worship and the principles of his life were drawn from the highest source.

Samuel Nathan Knowles remained with his father until his marriage in 1886 to Mary Zerelda Martin, who was born in the southern part of Montgomery township, Gibson county, a daughter of William Asbury and Patience (Knowles) Martin. She was born and reared on section 27, and her father before her was born and reared on the same spot, his



father being the original owner of the land. At his father's death, the mother and rest of the family removed to Illinois, while William Asbury bought the home farm and passed the remainder of his life there. He had one hundred and sixty acres in one tract and fifty-eight in another. Mrs. Knowles is one of ten children in the Martin family, five of whom are still living. Philip and John are farmers in Montgomery township; Ed lives at Lincoln, Nebraska; Julius resides at Buckskin, about nine miles east of Fort Branch, Indiana. Patience (Knowles) Martin, the mother of Mrs. Knowles, was reared just west of the Black River school in Montgomery township and was the daughter of Edward Knowles and wife, *Nancy Fitzpatrick*.

After his marriage in 1886, Samuel Nathan Knowles continued to assist his father in his work for some four or five years, at which time he desired to possess land for himself and purchased from his father the northwest quarter of section 23, where he has since resided. This particular tract of land is what was known in the early days as the Hullam Jones place. The land was entered by Jones, who had a grist mill there in pioneer days.

Mr. Knowles is much interested in politics and gives his staunch support to the Democratic party. In 1902 he was nominated for county treasurer by his party against F. D. S. Knowles and, though he made an excellent race, he met defeat owing to the fact that it was a Republican victory clear through. However, he made an enviable record for himself in that he reduced the nominal Republican majority of some four hundred to ninety-four, and considers that he broke the backbone of the Republican strength. The salient point in his campaigning was his advocating that the interest on all county funds should revert to the county treasury, and this principle has since been adopted.

Mr. Knowles is of the finest type of manhood, honest and upright, widely and favorably known. Into his business of general farming and the raising of good strains of live stock, he puts good judgment and business ability and success is inevitable. Mr. and Mrs. Knowles are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, to which they give liberally of time and means. Mr. Knowles' fraternal affiliation is with the time-honored body of Free and Accepted Masons, and in this work he has attained to the council degree. Mr. Knowles is a busy man, but he finds time and opportunity to take an interest in matters pertaining to the progress and growth of the community and county, keeping abreast of the times on all questions of vital interest and being regarded by all as a leading citizen in the locality honored by his residence.



























